

I have a friend now!

I haven't had a friend since...

...

It's been a long time.

I can talk to her about my problems, and she can talk to me about hers!

What else do friends do together?

They don't just talk about their problems.

They... They do things together! Friend things! Fun things!

What's something Sarah and I can do together that she would enjoy?

HM?

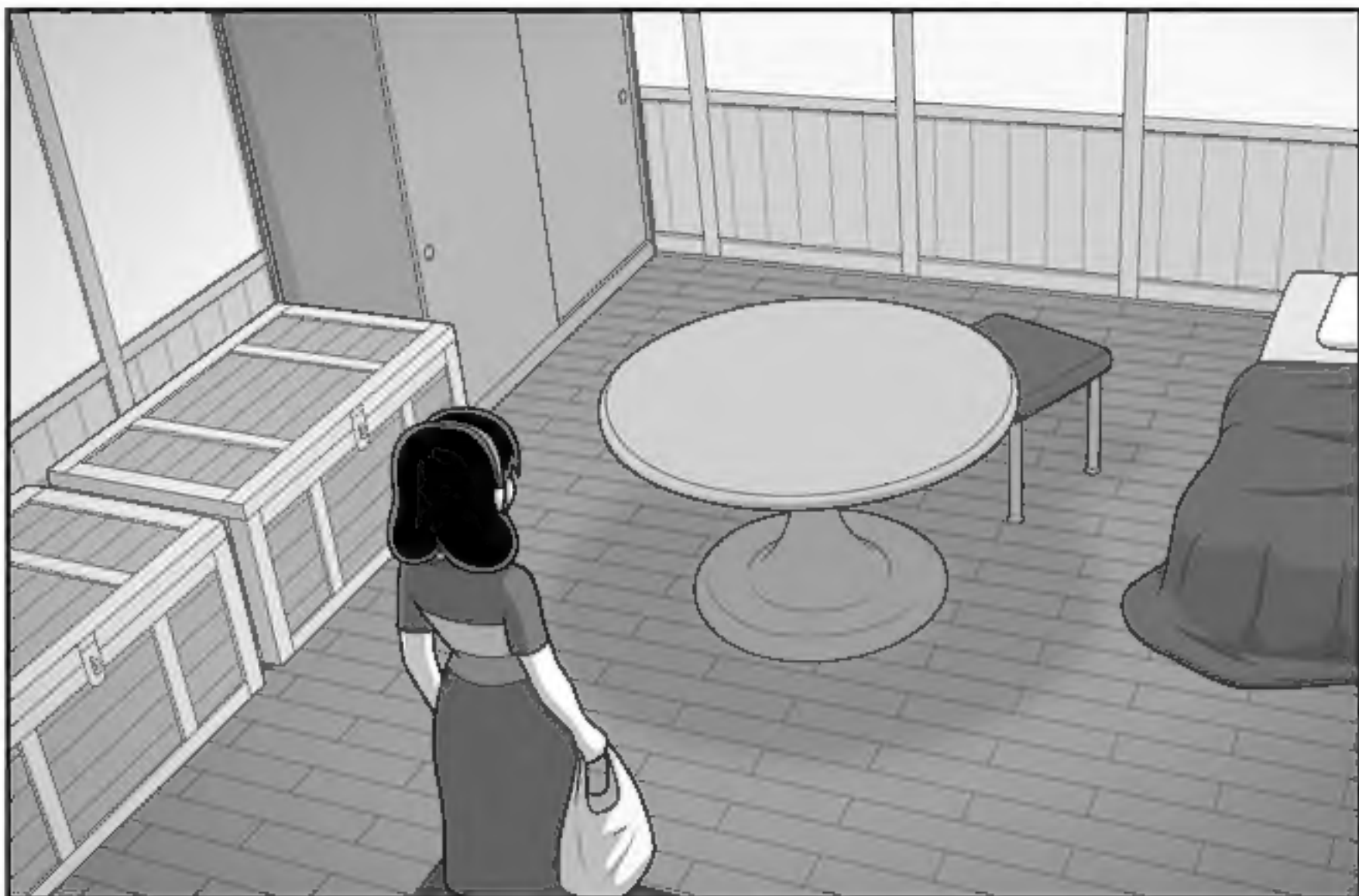
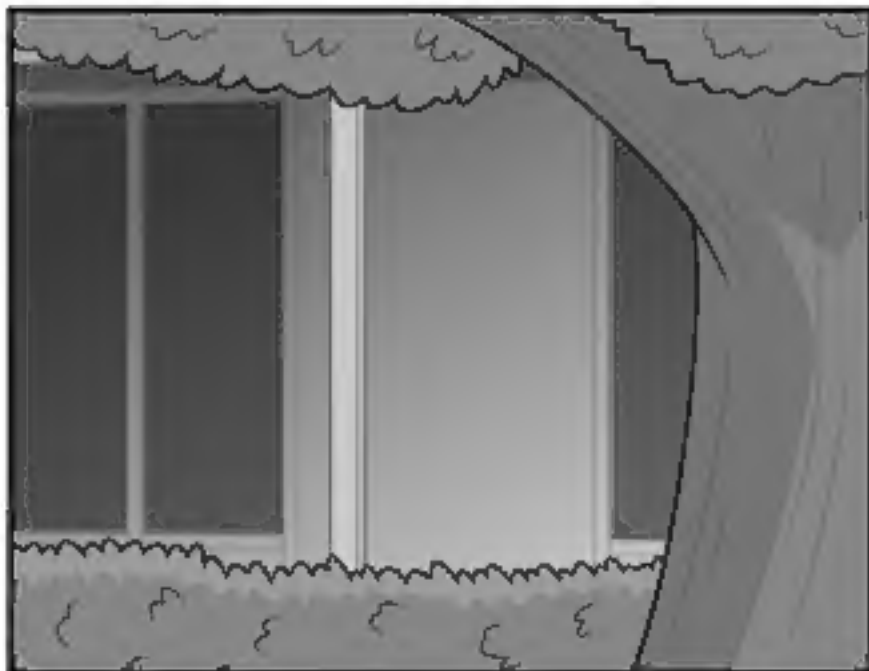
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Spell augments the user's vision to allow them to see auras around mortals that represent the amount of, and type of, magic power they have. Given an adequate number of examples, and enough additional information, user could be able to determine the species of who they're looking at. Some rare auras might appear too bright to look at. The auras of immortals should be hidden if the immortal is invisible, or camouflaged in a non-immortal form.





THIS IS THE  
BEST PLACE  
TO KEEP THE  
ENTRANCE  
FOR NOW.

IT'S THE SAME  
BUILDING AS THE  
COMIC SHOP, BUT  
THE SHOPS ON THIS  
SIDE AREN'T BEING  
USED RIGHT NOW,  
AND IT FACES  
THE RIVER.



I WISH I COULD  
CHANGE WHERE  
THE ENTRANCE IS  
WHILE IN HERE.

I DON'T WANT  
TO GET STUCK  
IN HERE WAITING  
FOR PEOPLE TO  
GO AWAY AGAIN.





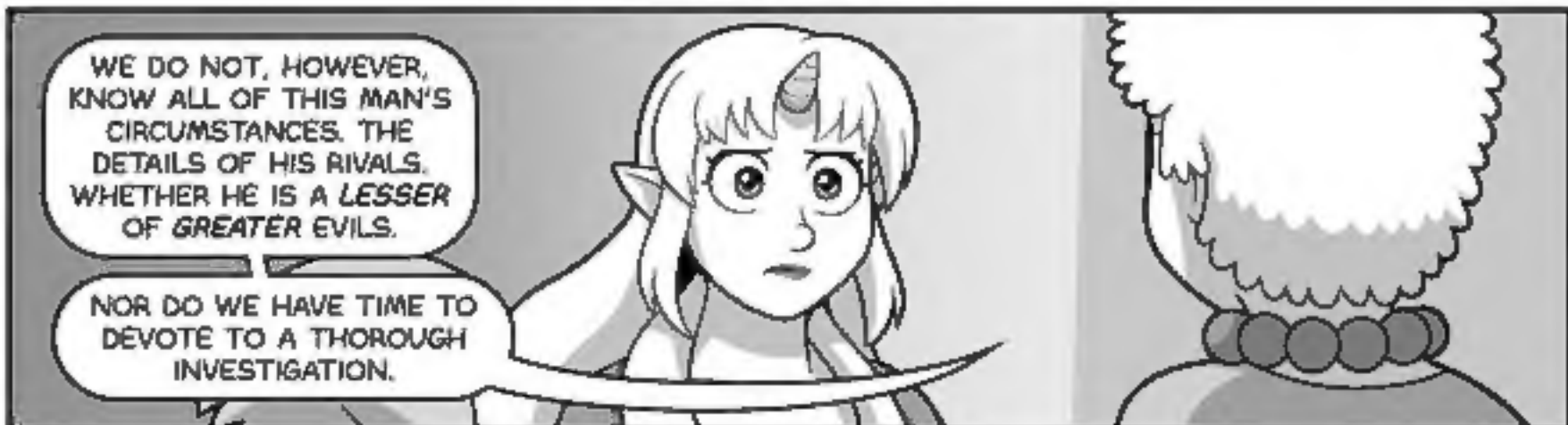
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End Part 2

Part 3 Begins Wednesday, January 24th

New comics on hold due to sickness. Will hopefully get well soon.  
Next comics should be a Tuesday EGSNP, and a Wednesday Story Page.

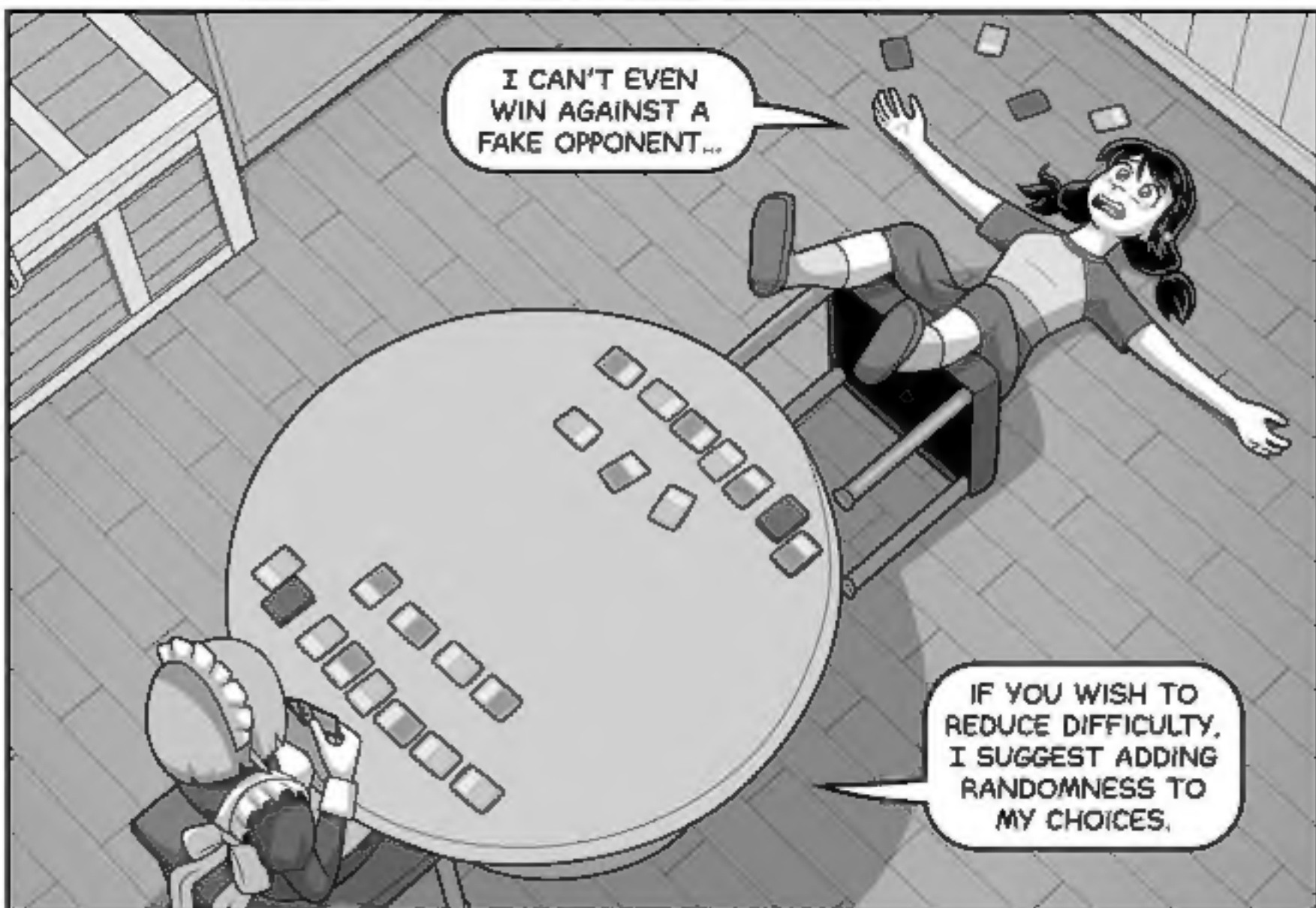




No  
Ob!



THWUMP





I NEED TO PLAY WELL ENOUGH TO NOT GET ELIMINATED EARLY IN THE TOURNAMENT

AND IF I GET TO PLAY AGAINST SARAH I NEED TO LAST LONG ENOUGH TO PLAY THAT CARD!



PLAYING THAT CARD IS NOT A WIN CONDITION IN THIS GAME

ALSO, IT PERFORMS POORLY!

I RECOMMEND REPLACING IT.



YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND...

CORRECT! I AM A—

STOP! I KNOW!



I NEED TO BE AS GOOD AS I CAN BE BEFORE FRIDAY NIGHT, AND I ONLY HAVE .. UH..

WHAT DAY IS IT?

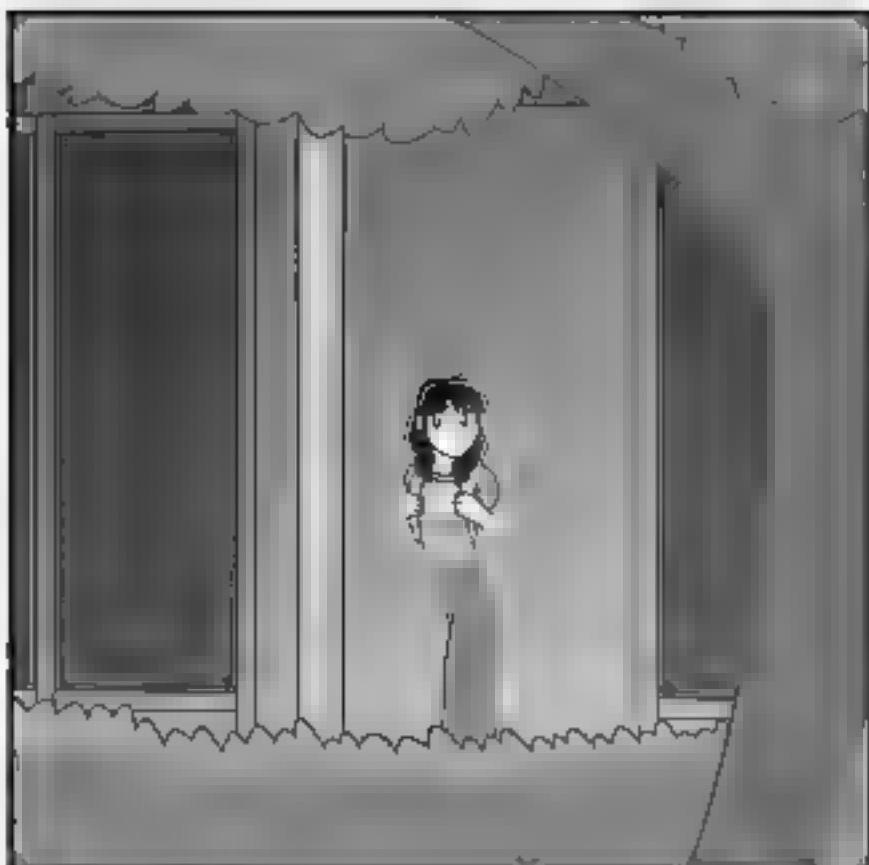
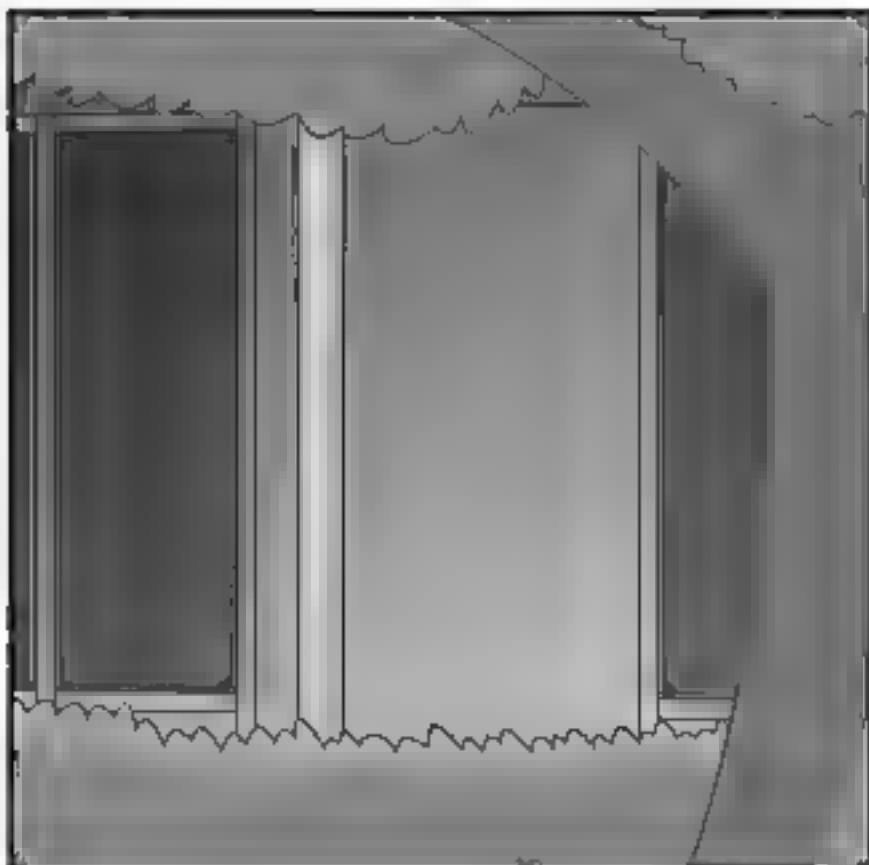


IT IS FRIDAY, FIVE THIRTY-TWO P.M.



THE EXACT DATE IS

**DISMISSED! UNSUMMON! I HAVE TO GET READY TO GO RIGHT NOW!**











THERE'S NO WAY ALIENS ARE USING PSYCHIC DISGUISES TO BLEND IN. THERE ARE WAY TOO MANY CAMERAS AND REFLECTIVE SURFACES.

YEAH, BUT WHAT IF THEIR PSYCHIC DISGUISES WORK ON THOSE, TOO?

THAT WOULDN'T MAKE ANY SENSE.



OH HEY, YOU'RE BACK. WHAT'S IT BEEN. THREE WEEKS?

I WASN'T GOING TO MISS TONIGHT!

?



BLAH BLAH

BLAH BLAH  
BLAH BLAH BLAH  
BLAH BLAH

BLAH!

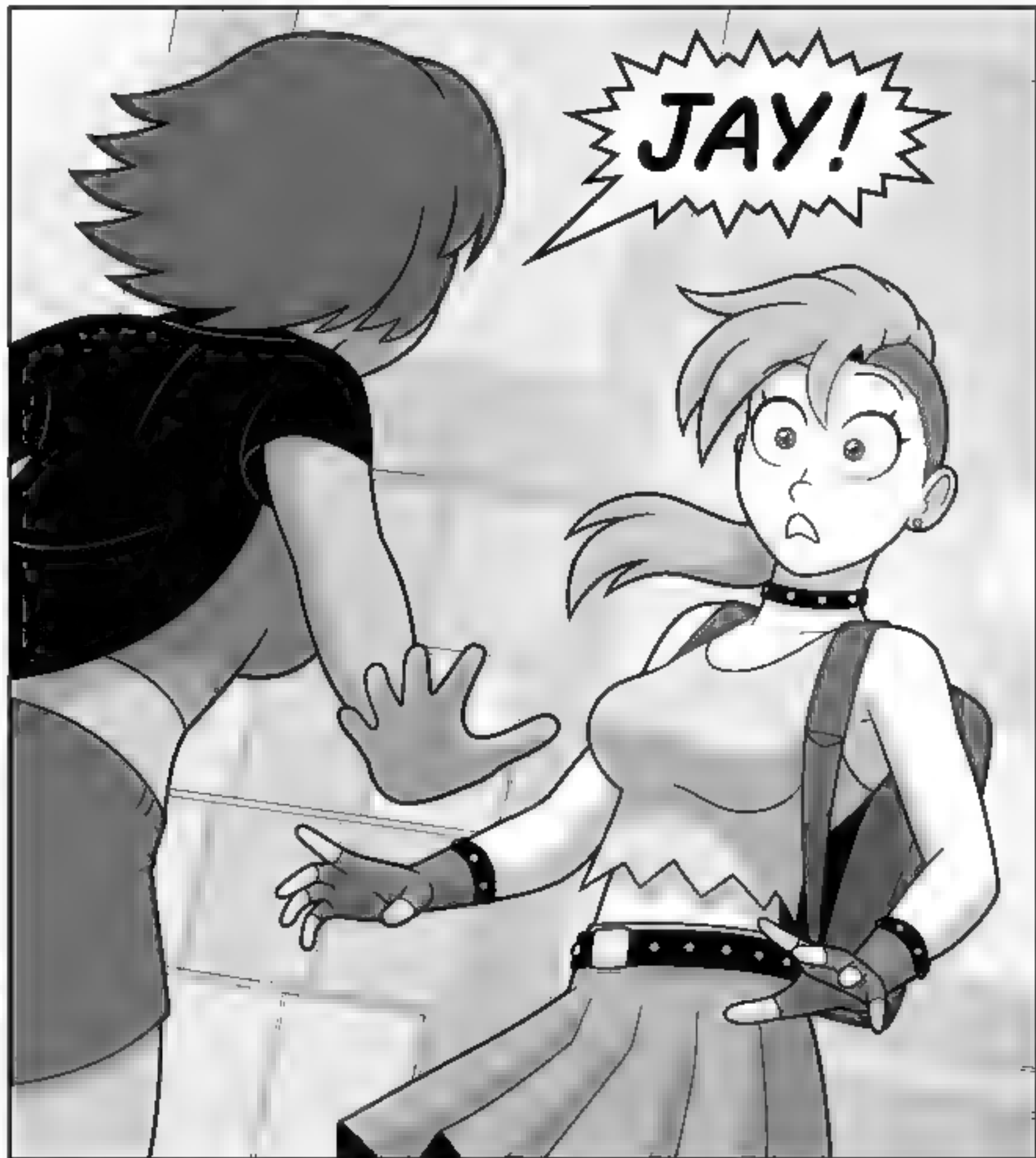


WHAT'S IN ALL THESE BOXES, ANYWAY?

BACK ISSUES. WHAT'S ON THE SHELVES ARE NEW AND NEW-ISH, BUT THESE COMICS ARE...



GASP





HM?



TEDD, THIS IS JAY! SHE'S ONE OF MY FRIENDS FROM SCHOOL!

"FRIEND"? I THOUGHT I WAS JUST A FRIEND OF A FRIEND.  
I BET SHE'S BEING POLITE



I DON'T RECOGNIZE HER, AND I DON'T REMEMBER WHY

...BUT I KNOW IT INSTINCTIVELY.



BACK WHEN I WAS PANDORA...

SEE? I TOLD YOU I DIDN'T JUST MAKE TEDD UP TO TURN PEOPLE DOWN!

WAIT HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE ASKING YOU OUT???

...I AWAKENED HER MAGIC.

I MADE A  
POINT OF  
REMEMBERING  
EVERYONE I  
GAVE MAGIC TO  
IN THE PAST  
FEW DECADES.

I DON'T REMEMBER  
EVERYONE CLEARLY,  
BUT I REMEMBER  
*SOMETHING* ABOUT  
THEM, AND A LOT  
ABOUT THEIR MAGIC.

I DON'T  
REMEMBER  
*HER*, OR  
HER MAGIC,  
AT ALL.

I CAN SENSE SHE'S  
A WIZARD, SO I  
KNOW SHE MIGHT  
HAVE A VARIETY OF  
OTHER PEOPLE'S  
SPELLS, BUT THAT'S  
NOT A MEMORY

WITH THE BRAINS  
I HAD BACK THEN,  
I DON'T THINK I  
*COULD* HAVE  
FORGOTTEN SOME-  
ONE, SO...

SO *SOMETHING*?

MAYBE  
I'M JUST  
TOO FAR  
AWAY?

OR SHE LOOKED  
DIFFERENT WHEN  
I AWAKENED HER?



I MIGHT GET HIT WITH  
A BUNCH OF MEMORIES  
IF I GET CLOSE TO HER.

I DON'T KNOW IF  
I CAN KEEP MYSELF  
FROM REACTING IN  
SOME WAY IF THAT  
HAPPENS.

I MIGHT RUN INTO  
OTHER PEOPLE I'VE  
GIVEN MAGIC TO, TOO,  
AND HAVE THE SAME  
PROBLEM...

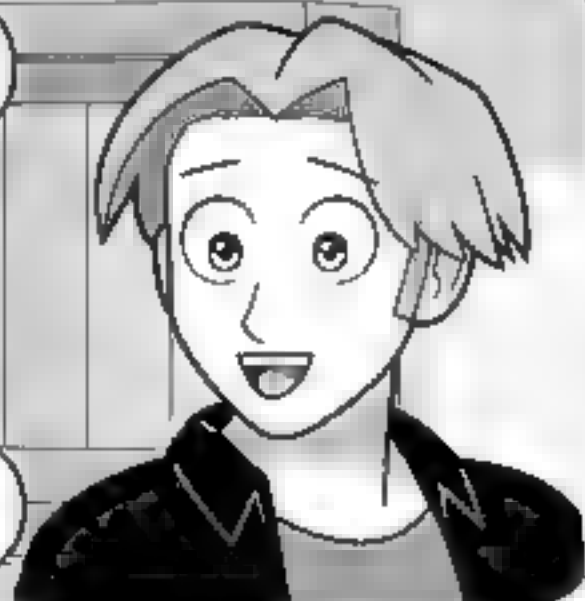


LET ME GUESS, YOU KNOW  
MY NAME, BUT YOU DON'T  
KNOW *HOW* YOU KNOW IT?

YES?

THAT'S A WEIRD  
THING THAT'S BEEN  
HAPPENING.

STRANGERS RECOGNIZING  
EACH OTHER, AND KNOWING  
NAMES AND STUFF



**THAT'S IT!**

IF I MAKE A WEIRD  
FACE OR SOMETHING,  
THAT'S MY EXCUSE!

THANK YOU, JUSTIN,  
AND WHATEVER WEIRD  
THING IS MAKING THAT  
HAPPEN!









HEY MARK STEVE

OH HEY, JAY! YOU'RE HERE!

HEY

GOT A NEW TOURNAMENT DECK?



NO.

NO? YOU'RE STICKING TO A BUDGET DECK IN A TOURNAMENT?

UM, YEAH? I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW MUCH I LIKE THIS GAME YET



OKAY BUT I DON'T THINK GETTING DESTROYED IN A TOURNAMENT IS GOING TO LEAVE THE BEST IMPRESSION.

I BEAT YOU WITH IT

EVEN THE BEST DECKS ARE SUBJECT TO LUCK!



DANG THAT GRL'S WEIRDLY HOT? LIKE YOU WOULDN'T THINK HALF A SHAVED HEAD WOULD WORK BUT

DON'T STARE RICH

I'M NOT STARING! BESIDES, WHO GOES FOR A LOOK THAT UNUSUAL AND DOESN'T EXPECT A FEW



=GASP=



LARRY! LOOK!

SERIOUSLY? RIGHT AFTER I SAID NOT TO—

NOT HER! BY THE DOOR!



=GASP=



Susan and Eliot's online movie review show was not a pop culture phenomenon with millions of subscribers

It had "acceptable" sound quality, minimal editing, "however bright the room happened to look that day" lighting, cheesy jokes, a very irregular posting schedule, and no actual name for the series.

It was relatively well known by students at Moperville North High School simply due to the novelty of Eliot and Susan being students there who stood out in their own ways

Susan being very outspoken (and having a giant hammer "magic trick"), and Eliot being, well, Eliot.

There was one place, however, where their show was extremely well known.



IT'S A GOOD SHOW! YOU SHOULD CHECK IT OUT!



I KNOW THE PRODUCTION QUALITY ISN'T GREAT, AND THE FIRST COUPLE EPISODES ARE ROUGH, BUT IT GETS BETTER! CHECK IT OUT!



OH UH, I HAVEN'T READ THE COMICS OR SEEN THE MOVIE, SO I DUNNO IF THE MOVIE WAS BAD...

BUT MY FRIENDS MIGHT HAVE REVIEWED IT?



SUSAN IS VERY TALENTED. CHECK OUT THIS BIT SHE DID!

UH, MAYBE LATER?

IT'S A VERY GOOD BIT



In this one specific comic shop..

IS SOMETHING ON MY FACE?

HMMM





WHAT THE HELL?



WHY'D EVERY ONE GO QUIET?

YOU DON'T KNOW? THAT GIRL REVIEWS MOVIES! SHE'S A HUGE INTERNET CELEBRITY!



MEANING SHE HAS SOMEWHERE BETWEEN FIVE AND FIVE HUNDRED MILLION FANS.

IS HER NAME SUSAN?

SO YOU DO KNOW HER SHOW!



NOT EVEN A LITTLE I THINK THIS IS THAT "DO I KNOW YOU" THING.

THAT "I KNOW YOUR NAME AND STUFF ABOUT YOU FOR NO REASON" THING? SERIOUSLY?

ISN'T IT WAY MORE LIKELY YOU JUST SAW HER SHOW AND FORGOT ABOUT IT?



I DON'T WATCH MOVIE REVIEWS, SO NO, IT'S NOT

THANKS TO GRANDPA'S WARNING, I KNOW THE "DO I KNOW YOU" ANOMALY IS REAL, BUT THAT'S ALMOST ALL I KNOW ABOUT IT

BECAUSE OF COURSE HE WOULDN'T TELL ME MORE

IF I KNOW HER NAME, DOES SHE KNOW MINE?

WHAT ELSE COULD SHE KNOW ABOUT ME?

IT'S WEIRD THAT PEOPLE WERE LOOKING AT ME,  
BUT WHAT'S MORE IMPORTANT RIGHT NOW IS...

SARAH'S NOT HERE YET?

NO, BUT... DON'T  
WORRY I THINK I  
KNOW WHY SHE'S  
NOT HERE YET...

WHAT'S SUSAN  
DOING HERE? IS SHE  
PLAYING IN THE  
TOURNAMENT?!

SINCE WHEN  
DOES SHE  
EVEN PLAY  
THIS GAME?!

Since last year, in fact.  
But Pandora, now Hope,  
never witnessed t.

Back when Susan more frequently visited  
the comic shop, she occasionally used  
premade decks to play against Justin.

She never got that into it. To her, it was  
just something to do with Justin

Now, it was just something to do with Sarah

AND HERE I  
WAS WORRIED  
ABOUT GETTING  
HERE LATE AND  
MAKING HER  
WONDER WHERE  
I WAS.

SHE'S  
NOT EVEN  
HERE

HELLO,  
SUSAN!

DANG IT

HELLO MR TENSATED.  
THANK YOU AGAIN FOR  
MAKING MY DECK.

YOU'RE WELCOME FOR HELPING  
YOU MAKE A DECK! THE EVIL IDEA  
BEHIND IT WAS ALL YOU!



ALL I DID WAS  
MAKE A JOKE  
ABOUT A CARD  
I WANTED.

YOU'RE THE  
ONE WHO  
MADE IT A  
REALITY



A CARD YOU  
WOULD JOKE  
ABOUT...?



I WANT A CARD THAT  
FLIPS THE TABLE OVER.

WE'RE PLAYING  
ON A COUNTER.

OH, I AM GOING  
TO WANT TO SEE  
THIS DECK LATER.



ALL THAT ASIDE I AM  
SHOCKED—SHOCKED! THAT  
YOU ASKED HIM FOR HELP  
INSTEAD OF ME!



I DIDN'T ASK FOR HELP  
HE KINDLY OFFERED WHEN I  
TOLD HIM I'D BE PLAYING.

WELL, HAD YOU COME  
TO ME, YOU WOULD HAVE  
BEEN DAZZLED BY MY  
BRILLIANT ADVICE!



WHICH  
WOULD HAVE  
BEEN...?

TO ASK  
TENSAIDED  
FOR HELP!

HA!



SINCE I KNOW YOUR DECK,  
SUSAN, I HOPE I DON'T PLAY  
AGAINST YOU BUT WHAT  
HAPPENS, HAPPENS! GOOD  
LUCK IN THE TOURNAMENT!

YOU TOO!

YES GOOD STOP TALKING  
TO HER AND WALK AWAY SO  
I CAN MOVE IN, YOU MAYBE  
NICE BEARDED PERSON!



REMEMBER:  
DON'T USE THE  
SMOOTH TALKING  
SPELL! TEDD  
MIGHT CATCH  
YOU USING IT!



HELLO,  
FRIEND  
GRACE.

I HAVE  
RETURNED.



GASP! HI!



THIS IS  
SUSAN!

SUSAN,  
JAY!

JAY? JH... HI.



SO THAT IS YOUR NAME. I HAD A "DO I KNOW  
YOU" MOMENT WHEN YOU CAME IN THE SHOP  
I KNEW RIGHT AWAY YOUR NAME WAS SUSAN.

THAT ANOMALY DEALIE? I HOPE  
THAT'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT



IS THAT  
WHY EVERY-  
ONE GOT  
QUIET?

JUST A  
COUPLE OF  
PEOPLE GOING  
QUIET FROM A  
"DO I KNOW  
HER" MOMENT  
COULD HAVE  
MADE OTHERS  
GO QUIET  
TOO.



OKAY, THAT'S  
WEIRD BUT..

BEFORE GRACE SAID YOUR  
NAME, I WOULD'VE SWORN  
YOUR NAME WAS JACK.

JACK?

YEAH,  
SORRY, I...

HA! THAT  
SOUNDS  
BADASS!

YOU CAN  
CALL ME  
JACK.

EH?

OH THANK GOODNESS.

I DON'T THINK IT OCCURRED  
TO SUSAN THAT "JACK" MIGHT  
HAVE BEEN A DEAD NAME

TECHNICALLY EVEN  
"JAY" IS A NICKNAME THE  
NAME ON MY DRIVER'S  
LICENSE IS "JILL"

REALLY? I DON'T  
GO BY MY FIRST  
NAME, EITHER!

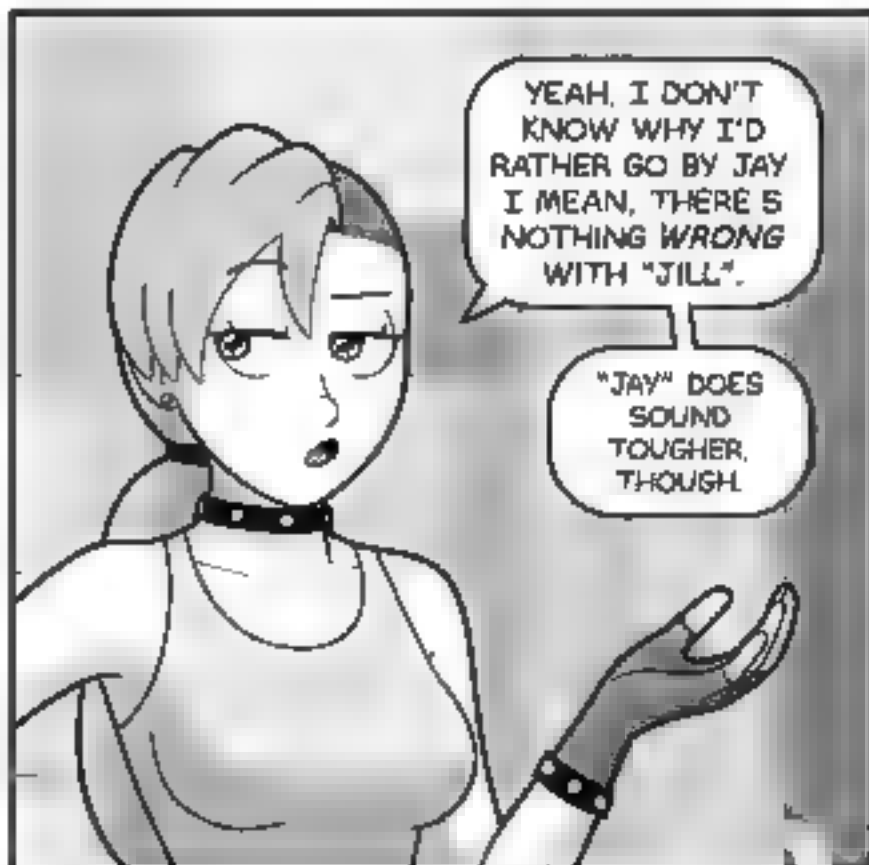
YOU  
DON'T?

YEAH! THOUGH I'D RATHER  
NOT SAY WHAT IT IS \*

YOU HAVE A LOVELY  
FIRST NAME, AND ANY-  
ONE WHO MAKES FUN  
OF IT IS A MEANIE

THANK YOU, AND YOU'RE  
RIGHT, BUT YOUNGER ME TOOK  
ISSUE WITH IT, AND NOW IT  
JUST SOUNDS WEIRD TO ME.

\* It's Tiffany











COOL ANYWAY, IT WAS COOL  
MEETING PEOPLE. I'M GOING TO GET  
OUT OF THE WAY OF THE COUNTER.

SEE YOU... IN GAMES!

LIKING HOW I LOOK IS TOTALLY SUPERFICIAL!  
IT DOESN'T MEAN SHE LIKES ME FOR REAL!

IF ANYTHING, IT MAKES  
HER MORE PHONY!

EXCEPT SHE  
OWNED UP TO IT  
IMMEDIATELY

WELL,  
WHAT  
CHOICE  
DID SHE  
HAVE?!

I'M  
SORRY  
GRACE

DON'T BE! I'M THE JERK  
WHO CALLED SOMEONE  
COOL BEHIND HER BACK!

SARAH.

AND  
THAT'S  
SAM?

THERE ARE SO  
MANY TRANS  
PEOPLE I KNOW OF  
THAT I COULD HAVE  
GIVEN MAGIC TO,  
BUT DIDN'T!

AND WHY?  
BECAUSE  
I'D DONE IT  
BEFORE!!

BECAUSE  
IT WAS  
BORING?!

I HAVE TO MARK  
EVERY ONE OF  
THEM I CAN LOCATE  
AGAIN BEFORE TEDD  
FINDS OUT!

OH, RIGHT  
I PANICKED.

AND STOPPED  
CARING FOR A  
FEW HOURS.

THAT I WAS  
SUPPOSED TO  
STOP GIVING  
PEOPLE  
MAGIC

IT'S ALL  
SUCH A  
BLUR.

HOW  
MANY  
PEOPLE  
DID I.

ARE  
YOU  
OKAY?





I'M  
FINE

I'M  
JUST..



I'M NOT GOOD  
WITH CROWDS OR  
STRANGERS.



OH  
AH..

SORRY IF I'M  
MAKING THINGS  
WORSE

NO,  
YOU'RE  
FINE



WELL, UM..  
IF IT HELPS, I'M  
NOT GOOD WITH  
STRANGERS  
EITHER.

THAT'S WHY  
I'VE BEEN  
CHECKING OUT  
COMICS  
INSTEAD OF  
MEETING NEW  
PEOPLE

STILL,  
UM.



ARE YOU  
SURE YOU'RE  
OKAY?



I UNDERSTAND BEING NERVOUS  
AROUND STRANGERS. BUT THE WAY  
YOU WERE HOLDING YOUR HEAD..

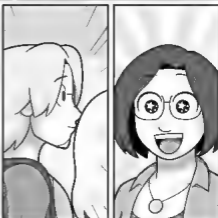


I'M  
FINE.



I'M SUPPOSED TO  
BE THE PARENT...







SAM'S  
A TRANS  
GUY WITH  
MAGIC?!

DID HE GET A  
MAGIC MARK FROM  
PANDORA?!



THOUGH SHE GAVE  
ME A WAY TO CHANGE  
MY DEFAULT FORM,  
AND HE'S USING AN  
ENCHANTMENT

MAYBE MINE'S  
DIFFERENT BECAUSE  
I HAVE AN ABSURD  
AMOUNT OF MAGIC?

OR SHE GAVE HIM  
A MARK CLOSE TO  
WHEN MAGIC MIGHT  
CHANGE, AND DIDN'T  
WANT TO MESS  
WITH PERMANENT  
CHANGES?

OR IT WASN'T  
ACTUALLY HER?  
I BET IT WAS  
HER, THOUGH.



AM. AM I  
SMILING?

I AM!

I

I'M  
JUST...



I'M JUST SO  
HAPPY FOR HIM!



TEDD?  
WHAT'S  
UP?

NOTHING!

I'M JUST REALLY  
HAPPY FOR NO REASON  
WHATSOEVER.



HIM?



DID I MAKE TEDD  
**CRY?!**



TONIGHT IS  
CONSTRUCTED  
PLAY USING  
CURRENT SETS!

WE'RE TRUSTING  
ALL OF YOU TO  
KNOW WHAT CARDS  
ARE AND AREN'T  
ALLOWED!

IF WE SEE  
A BETA OX  
OF SMELLY  
CALAMITY OR  
SOMETHING,  
YOU WILL BE  
DISQUALIFIED!



THIS IS A NON-ELIMINATION  
TOURNAMENT, SO YOU CAN  
KEEP PLAYING NO MATTER  
HOW MUCH YOU LOSE.

IT IS?!

BUT YOUR WIN/LOSS RECORD  
WILL DETERMINE PRIZES!



IF YOU WANT TO  
LEAVE EARLY FOR  
WHATEVER REASON,  
PLEASE OFFICIALLY  
DROP OUT OF THE  
TOURNAMENT!

DON'T LEAVE  
YOUR NEXT  
WOULD BE  
OPPONENT  
HANGING!



EACH ROUND  
IS BEST TWO  
OUT OF THREE  
WITH A FIFTY  
MINUTE LIMIT

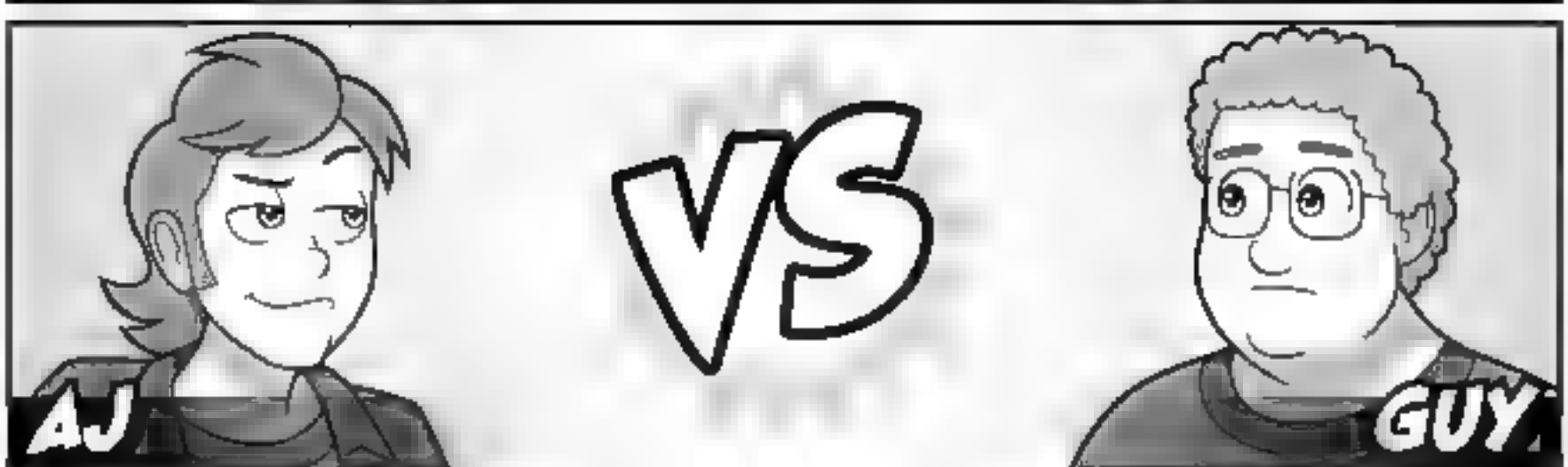
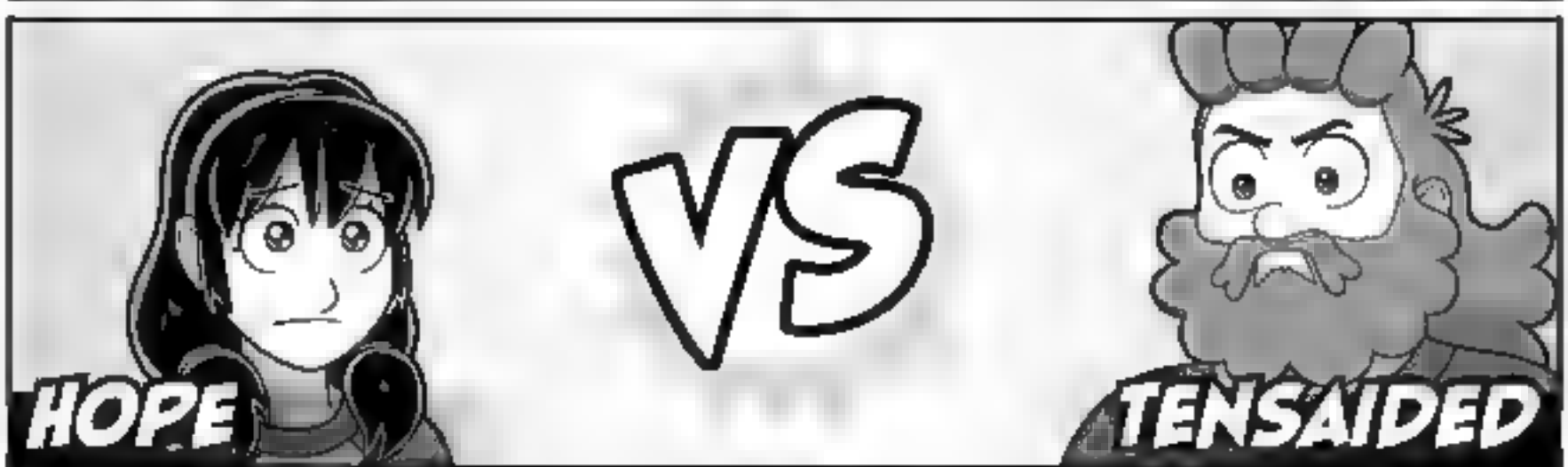
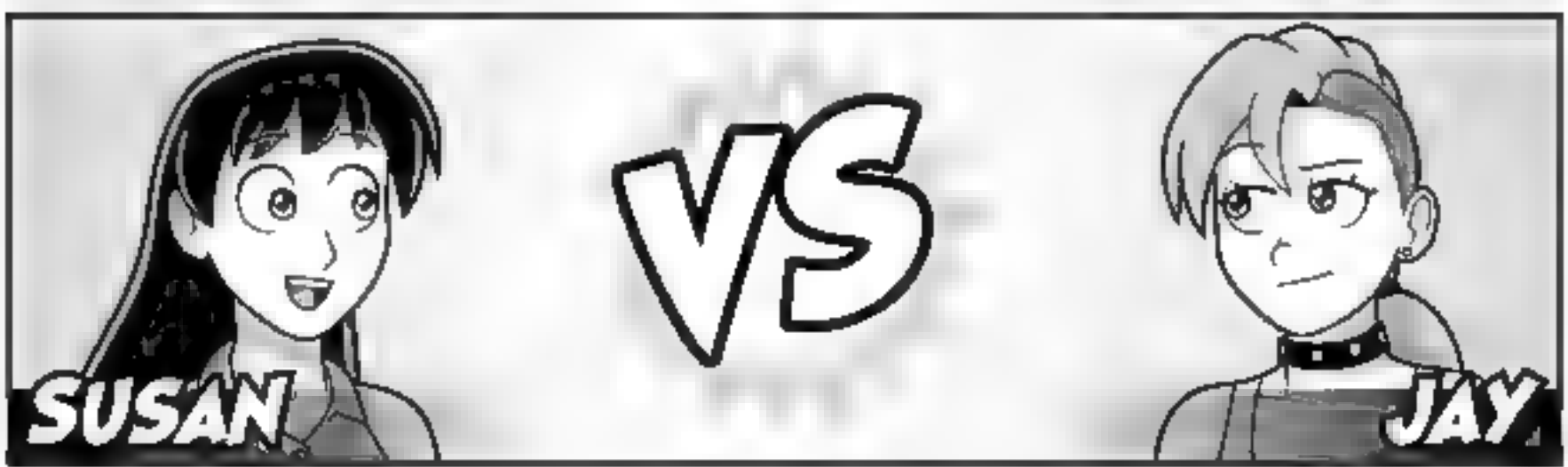
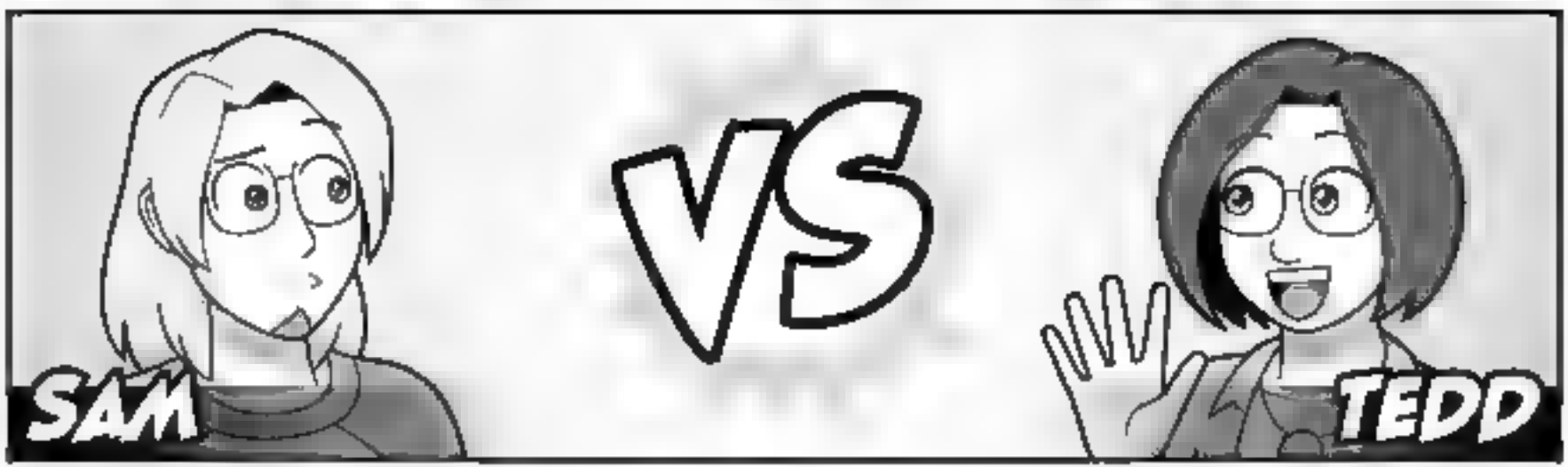
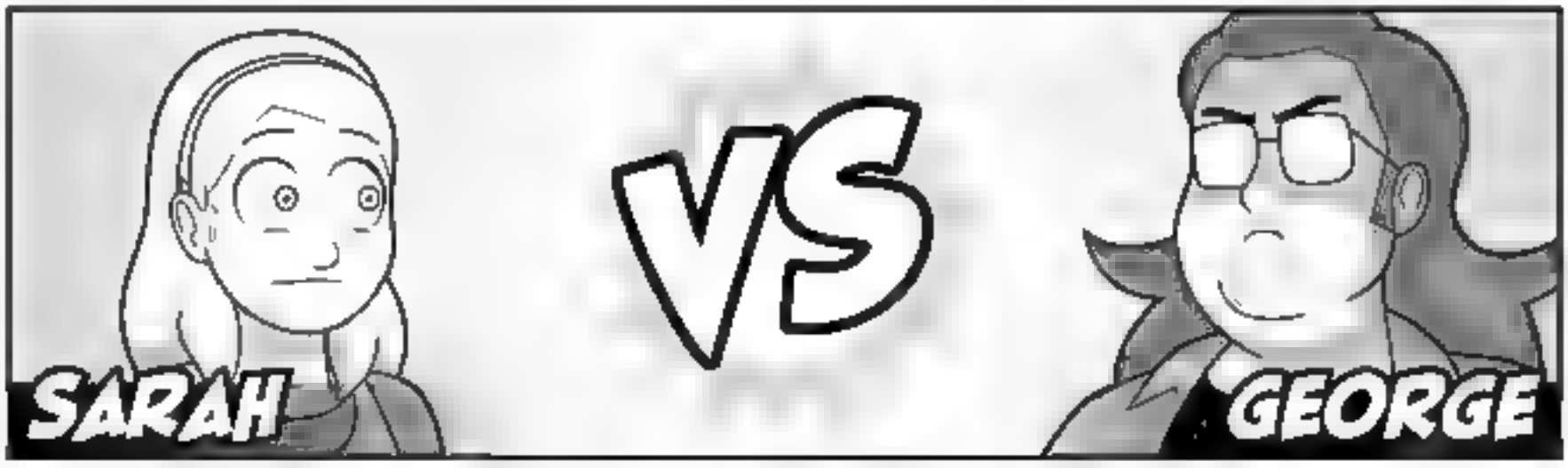
LET ME KNOW RIGHT AWAY  
WHEN YOU FINISH A ROUND  
SO MAYBE WE CAN ALL GET  
HOME AT A REASONABLE  
HOUR TONIGHT!



HE'S  
GOING TO  
CHEAT

End Part 5

Part 6 begins next Wednesday, May 1st





I KNOW  
WHAT CATTLE  
HE'S HERDING.

THE SPELL I CAN  
GIVE HIM IS ONE OF  
THOSE RIDICULOUSLY  
SPECIFIC SPELLS PEOPLE  
SOMETIMES YEARN FOR.  
HE MUST REALLY BE  
FRUSTRATED BY  
LOSING CARD GAMES.

AND REALLY  
LIKE ANIME  
WOMEN.

AS IS, HIS SPELL WOULD  
DO NOTHING TO SPREAD  
KNOWLEDGE OF MAGIC. NO  
ONE WOULD SEE WHAT HE  
SEES, INCLUDING ME.

**USELESS** FOR MY LONG  
TERM GOALS, AND FOR  
BOREDOM ALLEVIATION!

IF IT WERE TO  
EVOLVE THROUGH  
AN AWAKENING,  
HOWEVER, IT *MIGHT*  
RESULT IN ANOTHER  
PERSON WHO CAN  
DETECT MAGIC  
USERS. THAT COULD  
GO SOMEWHERE.

LUCKY HIM, I  
FEEL LIKE ROLLING  
THOSE DICE.

THERE'S ALSO A CHANCE  
HE COULD GET A SPELL TO  
ACTUALLY TRANSFORM PEOPLE  
INTO THE ANIME WOMEN HE  
SEES, BUT THOSE ARE  
WIN-THI LOTTERY ODDS.

**WHY DID I GIVE SOMEONE  
A SPELL FOR CHEATING AT  
A FRIENDLY CARD GAME?!**

WELL, ACTUALLY I KNOW  
EXACTLY WHY I DID THAT

**BUT WHY DID I  
THINK LIKE THAT?!**

I WAS SUCH  
A TERRIBLE  
PERSON!

AM I GOING TO  
BE LIKE THAT AGAIN  
SOMEDAY?

AM I **ALREADY** LIKE  
THAT, AND JUST DON'T  
REALIZE IT?!

HOPE?

**EEP!**

SORRY!

I'M  
TENSATED,  
YOUR  
OPPONENT

YOU  
OKAY?



THIS IS PERFECT! I WAS HOPING TO GET TO TALK TO JAY MORE AND WE'RE PLAYING AGAINST EACH OTHER IN THE FIRST ROUND!

WELL, NOT PERFECT WE'RE BOTH GOING TO BE FOCUSED ON THE GAME

I DON'T CARE ABOUT WINNING, BUT I WANT TO DO MY BEST WITH THE DECK TENSANEDA MADE FOR ME

WHAT WOULD BE PERFECT WOULD BE GETTING A MEAL AT A RESTAURANT OR SOMETHING.

WHERE WE COULD JUST TALK AND GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER, AND..

WAIT

AM I IMAGINING A DATE?!

NO NO NO!  
I JUST WANT TO GET TO KNOW HER BETTER.

TWO PEOPLE CAN GO OUT WITHOUT IT BEING A DATE, RIGHT?!

UH YOU OKAY?

WHOOSH

WHOOSH

WHOOSH

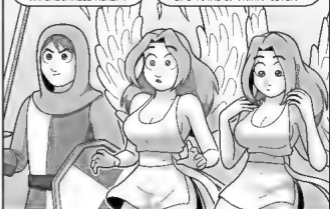


I USE MY HORN OF "HELP!" TO MAKE SIX HUMAN SOLDIER TOKENS.

BUT THANKS TO CASTING FISH OF METAMORPHOSIS EARLIER, THEY ALL ENTER PLAY AS COPIES OF YOUR ANGEL OF UNREASONABLE HEALTH!

AND THANKS TO THE ANGEL'S ABILITY, I GAIN LIFE EQUAL TO EACH OF THEIR HEALTH, WHICH IS FOUR TIMES SIX, SO I GAIN TWENTY-FOUR LIFE FOR A NEW LIFE TOTAL OF THIRTY-SEVEN!

HALP!



ACTUALLY, EACH ANGEL TRIGGERS EACH OTHER ANGEL, SO EACH ONE TRIGGERS FIVE TIMES.

AND THESE ANGELS GIVE A HEALTH BONUS TO EVERYTHING ON YOUR SIDE, INCLUDING THEMSELVES. IF YOU HAVE ENOUGH LIFE

YOU DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH LIFE WHEN THE PROCESS STARTED, BUT YOU WILL REACH THAT THRESHOLD EARLY IN THE LIFE GAIN TRIGGERS, MEANING EACH OF THEM WILL HAVE SIXTEEN HEALTH ONCE IT APPLIES.



OH SO... HOW MUCH LIFE DO I GAIN?

SOMEWHERE BETWEEN.

...ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY, AND FOUR HUNDRED AND EIGHTY?

DEPENDING ON THE EXACT RULES OF HOW THINGS TRIGGER.

EITHER WAY I'M CONCESSING THIS GAME, SO WE DON'T HAVE TO FIGURE IT OUT

OH THANK GOD

MAYBE I'M TOO  
NEW TO THIS GAME,  
BUT I DON'T GET  
SUSAN'S DECK.

THE GIMMICK  
SEEMS TO BE  
WEAK MONSTERS  
THAT CAN COME  
BACK AS  
STRONGER, BUT  
EXPENSIVE  
GHOSTS. BUT  
SHE'S BEEN  
LEAVING THEM  
DEAD.

SHE HAS SOME GARGOYLE THAT CAN'T  
DO ANYTHING UNLESS SHE PAYS FOR IT  
TO BE A MONSTER UNTIL END OF TURN  
BUT SHE HASN'T USED THAT, EITHER.

SHE ALSO HAS SOME MARTIAL ARTS  
ENCHANTMENT ON HERSELF THAT  
REDUCES THE COST OF USING MULTIPLE  
CARDS DURING HER TURN. BUT SHE'S  
STILL JUST ACTING LIKE A TURTLE.

HEH NINJA TURTLE

MEANWHILE,  
I HAVE A TON  
OF GOBLINS.

HOW THE  
HELL DOES  
SHE PLAN  
TO WIN?

YOUR TURN  
UNLESS YOU  
WANT TO  
CONCEDE?

NO.

BUT I  
WILL FLIP  
THE TABLE  
OVER

# METEOR



Destroy all monsters.



**BOOM**

And then ghosts and a gargoyle that only sometimes counts as a monster happened

I LIVE...  
AGAIN!

OOF NOW THAT  
IS AN EVIL DECK.

I ASSURE  
YOU, I'M NOT  
VERY EVIL

FFFFT DIDN'T  
SAY YOU WERE  
IT'S NOT LIKE  
I'M A GOBLIN.

WELL MAYBE  
I'M A LITTLE  
LIKE A GOBLIN

HEH.

ANYWAY IT'S  
BEST TWO OUT  
OF THREE

ROUND  
TWO.

A DECK  
THAT  
REFLECTS  
WHO I  
AM...

THAT'S  
EASY

IT WOULD  
BE A DECK  
THAT TRIED TO  
BE READY FOR  
ANYTHING





WAIT WAIT WAIT

THINK

IF SHE'S NOT  
CLOSE TO MY FAMILY,  
I'M NOT GOING TO  
REMEMBER MUCH  
ABOUT HER OTHER  
THAN HER MAGIC.

I CAN SENSE THAT  
I AWAKENED HER, BUT  
I DON'T RECOGNIZE  
HER OTHERWISE SO  
SOMETHING?



HOPE YOU'RE  
AN IMMORTAL

JUST ACCESS PAST  
MEMORIES AND



Too many memories with  
emotions attached, all at once,  
could be debilitating.



I've done my best  
to make it so less  
important memories  
will be blocked  
unless relevant.

Memories  
from the past  
few years  
should surface  
very easily.

Older  
memories  
will need  
more of a  
push.

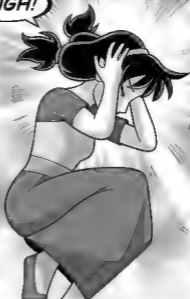
"OLDER MEMORIES"?  
ISN'T JAY SUSAN'S AGE?

HOW YOUNG WAS SHE  
WHEN I AWAKENED HER?!

HOW COULD I EVEN DO  
THAT? WHY WOULD I—



UNGH!



MAYBE

MAYBE  
RIGHT  
NOW



ISN'T THE  
TIME TO TRY TO  
REMEMBER TH'S.





IT'S WEIRD

WHAT'S WEIRD?

THAT "DO I KNOW YOU" THING. SEVERAL PEOPLE IN THE STORE SEEM TO RECOGNIZE ME

..BUT YOU'RE THE ONLY  
ONE I RECOGNIZE BACK.



I I DON'T THINK THAT'S WHERE THEY KNOW YOU FROM.

I'VE NEVER SEEN IT, BUT I KNOW A COUPLE OTHER PEOPLE PLAYING TONIGHT

...AND ONE OF THEM SAID YOU HAVE A MOVIE REVIEW SHOW ONLINE?

um, YES I REVIEW MOVIES WITH A FRIEND OF MINE

SO. WHEN EVERYONE WAS LOOKING AT ME WHEN I CAME IN... IT'S BECAUSE THEY'VE ALL SEEN MY SHOW?

IF THEY RECOGNIZE YOU AND YOU DON'T RECOGNIZE THEM... PROBABLY?

A black and white line drawing of a young woman with long hair, looking surprised or concerned. She has large, wide eyes and a slightly open mouth. She is wearing a collared shirt. The background is simple, with vertical lines suggesting a window or door frame.

IT'S NOT A BIG  
DEAL, RIGHT?  
VIDEO STORE  
CUSTOMERS HAVE  
SEEN MY SHOW,  
AND RANDOM  
PEOPLE FROM  
SCHOOL WATCHED  
IT TOO RIGHT?



BUT NONE OF THEM  
MADE A BIG DEAL ABOUT  
IT EVERYONE HERE WENT  
SILENT WHEN I ARRIVED

AND REGULARS AT  
THE STORE, AND  
ESPECIALLY PEOPLE  
FROM SCHOOL,  
KNOW WHAT I'M  
REALLY LIKE

THESE STRANGERS DON'T  
KNOW ME AT ALL!



THEY KNOW ON-CAMERA ME!



ARE  
YOU  
OKAY?

YOUR FACE  
HAS VERY  
QUICKLY  
GONE FROM  
GHOST  
WHITE TO  
BEET RED



I ACT DIFFERENTLY ON THE SHOW I'M MORE ENERGETIC AND... SILLY EVERYONE HERE WHO JUST KNOWS ME FROM THE SHOW HAS A COMPLETELY D.STORTED IMPRESSION OF ME.

THAT'S A GOOD THING!

PEOPLE THINKING I'M AN ENERGETIC JESTER IS A GOOD THING?

HELL YEAH! IT'S A READY-MADE MASK!

MASKS ARE POWERFUL THEY GIVE YOU CONTROL OVER PEOPLE'S PERCEPTION OF YOU

...AND THAT'S ESPECIALLY TRUE OF A JESTER MASK

STRANGE AND CHAOTIC BEHAVIOR SUITS A JESTER MASK, SO THEY'RE D.IFFICULT TO DROP BY ACCIDENT

YOU CAN BE WHO-EVER YOU WANT TO BE WITH THESE GUYS. HAVE FUN WITH IT!

I GUESS THAT'S TRUE

YEAH! ANYWAY, I'M GOING TO GO TURN IN THE RESULTS. I GIVE THEM TO THE ORANGE-HA-RED GUY RIGHT?

YEAH





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End Part 6

Part 7 Begins Wednesday, June 19th



I'M JUST NOT AS GOOD WITH SPELLS THAT AREN'T FOCUSED ON TRANSFORMATION.



IT'S LIKE, I CAN LOOK AT YOU USING THE SPELL, AND GET THINGS LIKE "IT HIGHLIGHTS PEOPLE, AND LABELS STUFF FOR YOU"

BUT I GET OVER THERE TO MY DESK, AND I DON'T KNOW HOW TO PUT THAT INTO A WAND.



WHY DO YOU HAVE TO GO OVER TO THE DESK?

EH?

LIKE, YOU WOULDN'T COPY SOMETHING OUT OF A BOOK FROM MEMORY RIGHT? YOU'D KEEP THE BOOK IN FRONT OF YOU

WHY DON'T YOU TRY COPYING THE SPELL INTO A WAND WHILE WATCHING ME USE IT?

IF THAT WORKS MAYBE USING THE SPELL WILL HELP YOU UNDERSTAND IT?



THAT'S. WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF THAT?

WELL... YOU DON'T JUST WANT TO COPY IT RIGHT? YOU WANT TO GET HOW IT WORKS.

YOU WEREN'T TRYING TO COME UP WITH OTHER WAYS TO COPY IT



I GOT FIXATED ON A SINGLE OBJECTIVE.



MAYBE?

HM. THANKS ELLIOT LET'S TRY THIS OUT?



OKAY!

SORRY TO PUT YOUR SPELL INTO A WRISTBAND WITHOUT ASKING.

BUT I NEED TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE NOT DOING SOMETHING HARMFUL.

TO.



WHAT



HE'S PLAYING A DECK WITH WATER AND LIFE MAGIC. THERE'S A FOCUS ON CONTROL. AND.

THIS JUST TELLS HIM WHAT PEOPLE'S DECKS ARE LIKE?!

HOW?! DOES HE EVEN HAVE HIS DECK ON HIM RIGHT NOW?!

DO PEOPLE HAVE SOME SORT OF COSMIC CONNECTION TO THEIR DECKS?!

HOW AM I GETTING THIS INFORMATION?!

AS FAR AS I CAN TELL, HIS SPELL DOESN'T DO ANYTHING TO THE PEOPLE HE LOOKS AT, BUT THERE IS A BRIEF INTERACTION SIMILAR TO SARAH'S SIMULATED TIME STOP SPELL.

RADAR!  
(sort of)

SO I SHOULD BE ABLE TO RESIST IT, BUT THAT WOULD MARK ME AS "SPECIAL" TO HIM, WHICH I'D RATHER NOT DO

AT LEAST I CAN GUESS WHAT THE "GIBBERISH" WAS. IT'S TO DO WITH PEOPLE'S DECKS.

IT FELT SIMILAR TO LOOKING AT COMPILED CODE ONES AND ZEROS INSTEAD OF TEXT

I CAN'T POSSIBLY MAKE SENSE OF IT BASED ON SEER SIGHT ALONE...



011010011001101011  
100110101101001010  
0001010100110011  
01010010110000010  
10000101010101010  
0101001001000001  
10100110101101010  
1000100101010000  
01010010101011010  
010101101000010  
0101010101010101  
1010100101010101

Lots of  
spell cards

Life and  
Water magic

Monsters  
with  
strong  
attack.

WAIT A MINUTE.

HOW THE ANIME GIRL VISUAL LOOKS IS BASED ON WHAT A PERSON'S DECK IS LIKE...

...BUT THE ONLY REASON I KNOW WHAT CORRESPONDS TO WHAT AND WHAT IT ALL MEANS...

...IS BECAUSE THE SPELL IS DIRECTLY TELLING ME WHAT IT ALL MEANS.

IS THERE ANY POINT TO IT SHOWING PEOPLE AS ANIME GIRLS?!

AUGMENTED VISION  
INCREASES THE INITIAL  
COST AND UPKEEP  
OF THE SPELL!

MAYBE IT MAKES  
BLUFFING EASIER  
TO SPOT? OR.

TEDD?

Grace no deck

WHAT'S UP?

Sarah, werewolf deck

OH RIGHT

MOST SPELLS  
THAT PEOPLE  
GET REPRESENT  
THEIR DESIRES  
IN SOME WAY..

AND MAGIC  
WANTS PEOPLE  
TO USE IT

TEDD?

THIS ONE  
HUNDRED PERCENT  
MAKES SENSE

I'D BETTER STOP USING THIS SPELL BEFORE I LOOK AT ANYONE ELSE TOO CLOSELY

DON'T MIND ME THINKING STUFF

HM. I CAN GUESS WHAT KIND OF STUFF

IT'S PROBABLY NOT WORTH TRYING TO QUIETLY EXPLAIN IT RIGHT THIS SECOND

HE'S USING MAGIC TO CHEAT SO I CAN'T ASK JUSTIN TO MAKE A RULING AS A JUDGE

...AND THE ONLY PLAYERS I CAN WARN ARE SUSAN AND SARAH, WHICH WOULD PROBABLY JUST DISTRACT THEM IF THEY PLAY AGAINST HIM

ALSO HIS CHEAT IS WEIRDLY... NOT GREAT?

IT JUST SEEMS TO GIVE A GENERAL IDEA OF WHAT SORT OF DECK AN OPPONENT'S USING?

THAT'S LIKE, A SLIGHT ADVANTAGE IN THE FIRST GAME AND WE'RE PLAYING BEST TWO OUT OF THREE?

I GET INFORMATION LIKE THAT WITHOUT EVEN TRYING BY OVERHEARING NEARBY MATCHES!

SO IT DOESN'T PROVIDE A GREAT ADVANTAGE BUT WITH THE INFORMATION IT CAN GET IT COULD HAVE!

A COMPLETE DECK LIST!

THE CARDS IN HIS OPPONENT'S HAND!

THE ORDER OF CARDS IN THEIR DECK!

THE ORDER OF CARDS IN HIS OWN DECK!

ALL SORTS OF THINGS!

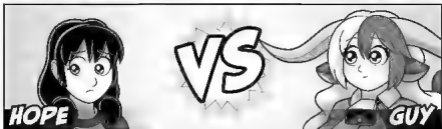
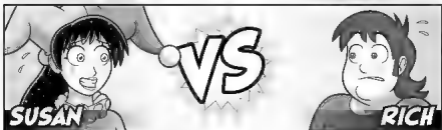
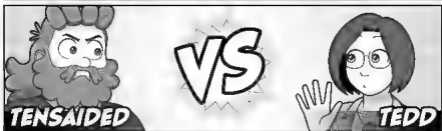
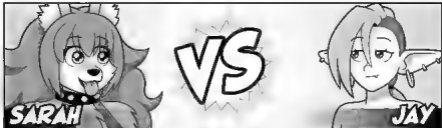
EITHER MAGIC ITSELF OBJECTED TO CHEATS THAT POTENT TO CHEATS THAT POTENT

SOMETHING I DON'T THINK IT WOULD CARE ABOUT

OR

A SLIGHT ADVANTAGE WAS ALL HE WANTED?

ROUND TWO PAIRINGS, COMING UP!

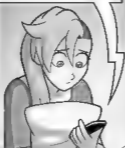




The "do I know you" anomaly is real

We've examined people who've experienced it to check for telltale signs of psychic attack and manipulation, and have found none

Nonetheless, random people might know things about you, and you about them. Be careful!



OKAY SO I PROBABLY DON'T LIKE SUSAN BECAUSE SOMETHING IS MAKING ME LIKE HER

AS THOUGH THAT WAS LIKELY WITH MY DEFENSES.



SO WHY DO I LIKE HER SO MUCH?

IS IMMEDIATELY "CLICKING" WITH SOMEONE YOU JUST MET A THING THAT ACTUALLY HAPPENS?

SHE'S FRIENDS WITH GRACE... MAYBE SHE KNOWS ABOUT MAGIC?

MAYBE I COULD ACTUALLY TALK TO HER ABOUT IT?

AS A FRIEND?

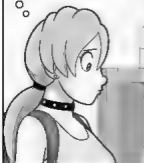


I SHOULDN'T BE THIS EXCITED BY THE IDEA OF SHARING MY DEEPEST SECRETS WITH A STRANGER!



THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT HER THOUGH SHE JUST FEELS LIKE...

A KINDRED SPIRIT?



I WONDER WHO HURT HER.











IT'S JUST A WOMAN—ANYONE SIMPLY BEING FRIENDLY OR NICE SHOULDN'T BE ASSUMED TO BE FLIRTING, AND THAT'S ALL THEY SEEMED TO DO IN THIS MOVIE!



IT'S LIKE THE DIRECTOR SAW PEOPLE IN CUSTOMER SERVICE WHO HAVE TO SMILE, AND THOUGHT "THAT THAT'S FLIRTING"



## SARAH VS JAY



**WINNER: JAY, 2-1**

## TENSAIDED VS TEDD



**WINNER: TENSAIDED, 2-1**

## SUSAN VS RICH



**WINNER: SUSAN, 2-1**

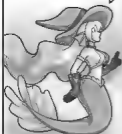
## HOPE VS GUY



**WINNER: GUY, 2-0**

## AJ VS GEORGE

HEY SO I'M OUT OF  
COUNTERSPELLS SO IF  
YOU WANTED TO PLAY  
MORE DRAGONS.



I KNOW  
YOU HAVE  
BOARD  
WIPES.

DARN  
IT

**WINNER: GEORGE, 2-0**

## SAM VS LARRY

YOU LOOK WAY STRONGER THAN I REMEMBER!  
WERE YOU HITTING THE GYM THE WHOLE TIME  
YOU WEREN'T PLAYING IN TOURNAMENTS?

UH.. YES.

YES I WAS

**WINNER: SAM, 2=1**



Before all the round two games had finished, and a little while after Jay had won against Sarah



I LIKE THAT MY BUDGET GOBLIN DECK WAS ABLE TO WIN PRETTY QUICKLY AGAINST WEREWOLVES

BUT I GUESS THE DOWNSIDE TO WINNING QUICKLY IN A TOURNAMENT IS HAVING TO WAIT

IT'D BE NICE IF...



EH?



SUSAN, ARE YOU—



ARE YOU OKAY?

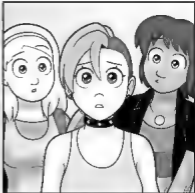


I'M FINE!

I WAS JUST ACTING LIKE I WAS ON-CAMERA THE WHOLE TIME I WAS PLAYING

IT WAS EXHAUSTING





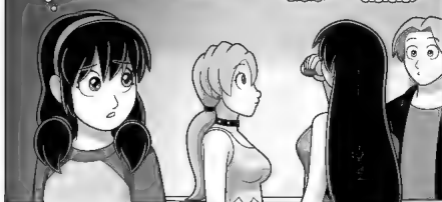


IT'S OBVIOUS SOMETHING  
BAD WAS HAPPENING WHEN  
I AWAKENED JAY

OR HAPPENED  
BECAUSE I  
AWAKENED JAY?

BUT IT  
HAPPENED  
YEARS AGO,  
RIGHT?

THERE'S  
NO POINT IN  
REMEMBERING  
RIGHT NOW!



I'M NOT READY TO  
FACE MY FAMILY BUT...



I NEED SOMEONE  
TO TALK TO

I NEED A  
FRIEND

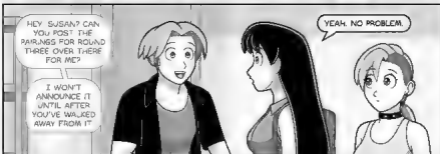


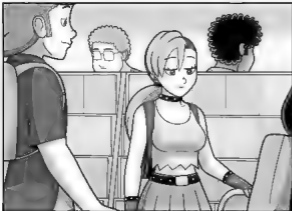
I NEED SARAH

AND ONLY  
SARAH



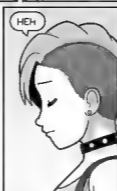
EVERY-  
THING ELSE  
CAN WAIT





IS HE LOOKING IN MY HEAD?

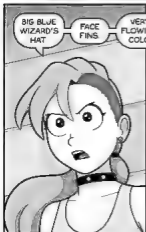




HA







OKAY, SO...  
I'M A HUNDRED  
PERCENT SURE  
JAY'S A WIZARD.  
AND I THINK



SOMETHING SHE  
ASSUMED ABOUT  
THAT GUY'S SPELL  
UPSET HER, AND HER  
POWER HAD AN  
EXTERNAL EFFECT



BUT THEN SHE  
USED THE SPELL  
HERSELF, AND  
GOT (SOMEWHAT)  
LESS UPSET..



BUT THEN  
SHE NOTICED  
ME LOOKING AT  
HER WITH MY  
SEER SIGHT



WHICH I DON'T  
THINK CAN BE  
SENSED IMPLYING  
PRIOR KNOWLEDGE  
ABOUT ME..



THEN GRACE  
CALMED HER DOWN  
MORE BUT SAID  
SOMETHING THAT  
SURPRISED JAY..?



BUT THEN I  
GUESS THAT GUY  
DID SOMETHING TO  
MAKE JAY UPSET  
AGAIN ?



AND SHE ALL  
BUT SAID TO HIM  
"I CAN USE YOUR  
SPELL"?!



I DON'T THINK SHE  
COULD SEE MY PUPILS  
WELL FROM THERE..?



PROBABLY THAT SHE  
KNEW JAY CAUSED  
THE LIGHTS THING..



U M  
DUDE?

DUDE



RIGHT  
SORRY

YEAH, I'M NOT  
FOCUSING GREAT  
THIS ROUND.

DUDE!

EH?

T'S  
YOUR  
GO!



I FEEL LIKE WE SHOULD BE DOING SOMETHING

LIKE WHAT?



I HAVE NO IDEA BUT IT FEELS WEIRD TO JUST GO ON LIKE NOTHING HAPPENED

I GET WHERE YOU'RE COMING FROM, BUT THE BEST THING WE CAN DO IS BE CALM AND UNDERSTANDING

LIKE ACTUAL CALM. NOT "I CLEARLY THINK I'M TALKING TO SOMEONE DANGEROUS" CALM

THAT "CALM" SUCKS



AND YOU'RE SURE JAY CAUSED ALL THAT?

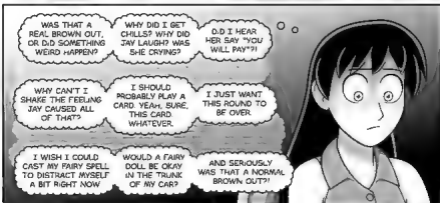
AFTER TALKING TO HER? PRETTY SURE

BEFORE THAT I WAS GOING OFF WHERE TEDD WAS LOOKING AND MY GUT



SUSAN LOOKS SO DEEP IN THOUGHT

SHE MUST BE PLANNING A MASTER STRATEGY TO VANQUISH MY MIDRANGE AGGRO SWINE DECK!



WAS THAT A REAL BROWN OUT, OR DID SOMETHING WEIRD HAPPEN?

WHY DID I GET CHILLS? WHY DID JAY LAUGH? WAS SHE CRYING?

DID I HEAR HER SAY "YOU WILL PAY"?!

WHY CAN'T I SHAKE THE FEELING JAY CAUSED ALL OF THAT?

I SHOULD PROBABLY PLAY A CARD. YEAH, SURE, THIS CARD WHATEVER.

I JUST WANT THIS ROUND TO BE OVER.

I WISH I COULD CAST MY FAIRY SPELL TO DISTRACT MYSELF A BIT RIGHT NOW

WOULD A FAIRY DOLL BE OKAY IN THE TRUNK OF MY CAR?

AND SERIOUSLY WAS THAT A NORMAL BROWN OUT?!



○○○

YEAH, I GOT CLOBBED BY DRAGONS. OVERRUN BY GOBLINS, AND, HONESTLY? I'M NOT EVEN SURE WHAT THAT LAST GUY WAS DOING.

IT WAS JUST "THING THING THING!" OH BY THE WAY YOU DON'T HAVE A DECK ANYMORE "

HEH

HEH

WELL, IF YOU BOTH KEEP PLAYING, ONE OF YOU WILL WIN A ROUND.

THE WAY MATCHUPS ARE CHOSEN, AND HOW SOME PEOPLE HERE DROP OUT BEFORE THE FOURTH ROUND.

IT'S PRETTY MUCH GUARANTEED YOU TWO WILL BE PLAYING EACH OTHER.

WHAD'YA SAY? RIVALS FOR LAST PLACE?





WITHIN THIS  
BOX IS PAIN  
AND REGRET.

PAIN AND  
REGRET THAT  
KEPT YOU FROM  
FUNCTIONING.

THE MEMORY IT  
IMPRISONS HAS  
NOTHING TO DO  
WITH YOUR  
FAMILY.

IT HAS NO  
PURPOSE. NO  
BENEFIT TO  
YOU OR  
THEM.

YOU  
SEALED IT  
YOURSELF.

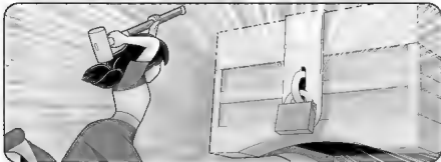
LEAVE IT  
THAT WAY.

THIS SN'T A  
FRAGMENTED  
MEMORY

THIS IS A  
COMPLETE  
MEMORY I  
LOCKED  
AWAY WHILE  
STILL...  
HER.

PANDORA  
DIDN'T MEAN  
TO GIVE ME  
THIS.

SHE  
DIDN'T  
EVEN  
KNOW IT  
WAS  
THERE





REASONS BEYOND  
OBLIGATION...

I DON'T  
WANT TO BE  
YOU AGAIN

I WANT TO KNOW  
MY PAST SO I DON'T  
MAKE THE SAME  
MISTAKES AGAIN

I WANT TO MAKE  
AMENDS TO PEOPLE  
I'VE HURT SO I CAN  
BE THE PERSON I  
WANT TO BE!

I NEED...

TO BE  
BETTER...

THAN  
YOU!



**End Part 8**

Part 9 begins next Wednesday, September 18th

With mostly trivial exceptions, an immortal doing things to mortals, beyond giving them power and guidance, had been against immortal law.

When an immortal knowingly broke immortal law, every other immortal instantly knew, and their combined power would forcibly reset the offending immortal.

If prepared, memories of an immortal's current life could be passed on, but without any emotional attachment. Bonds of friends and family were lost.

It would only be shortly before immortal law was changed that the option to pass on emotional attachment was rediscovered by Pandora.

Twelve years ago

Pandora, flying aimlessly while imperceptible to mortals...



I'M BORED

...was bored.

HM?

SOMEONE IS USING MAGIC IN THAT DIRECTION

IT FEELS LIKE THEY'RE PROJECTING A NIGHTMARE INTO SOMEONE'S HEAD

BORING. BUT MAYBE WHY IT'S HAPPENING IS.

WAIT THAT'S A

NO.



Her name was Jill, but I didn't know that yet

She appeared conscious but she was experiencing something entirely in her mind

From her perspective a monster was trying to kill her

Over and over again

I could sense the nature of the repeating nightmares, but from my perspective, they were sped up and blurry

Someone I assume Jill knew would say a friendly, familiar hello to her before turning into a monster, each monster different each time, and attacking



I saw glimpses of everyday items within her reach



Scissors. Sharpened pencils. Letter openers. Kitchen knives.

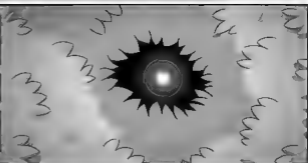
It was her mind under attack, but she wasn't the attacker's real target

He wanted her to attack someone close to her

The source of the attack, an old man who radiated hate and rage, was hidden in nearby bushes.

No one else nearby knew what was happening

Even if they knew, then trying to help could have put Jill in greater danger



The attacker was strong. His response to an interruption might have simply been to let her go and flee

But it also could have been to destroy Jill's mind

Jill's only hope

was me



There were only two options. There was no time for anything else.

I could have stopped the attacker and saved Jill in an instant, but that would have broken immortal law.

The consequence of that

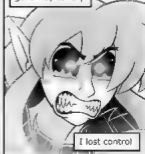


I meant only to raise her magic resistance. To block out the attacker.

Jill had the normal resistances of a child, meaning almost none at all, and she was without special talent.

Awakening her should have been impossible.

But my shame gave way to fury.

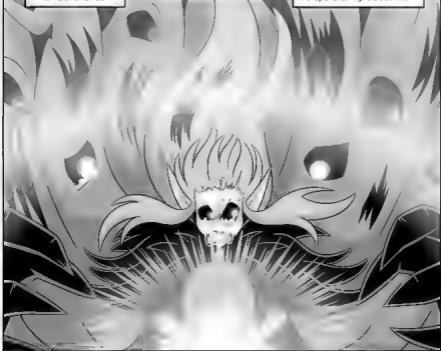


I lost control.

I gave her more and more of my power. More than was safe for either of us.

My thoughts were an unintelligible mix of shame, fear, and rage.

It was irrational. Giving her power could only raise her defenses so far, and she had no spells to fight back with.



But suddenly, she did.



Jill, an average child with no special talent, had somehow become a wizard.



And the first spell she earned was the one that was being used against her.





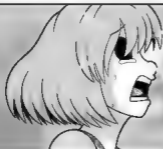
I don't know what Jil made her attacker experience. I lacked the presence of mind to perceive any of it.

I suspect it was variations of what she'd just seen, thrown back at him on reflex.

The sheer force of it alone could have been what terrified him.

Everyone in the nearby area must have felt the power in the air.

The old man's heart might have given out if he hadn't run blindly into traffic.



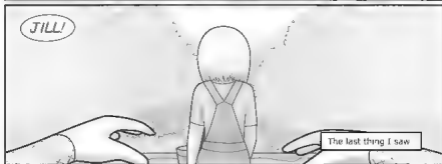
Jil couldn't have seen it happen from where she sat, but she was still connected to him by magic when her attacker was hit by a truck.

I don't know how she perceived the moment when he died.



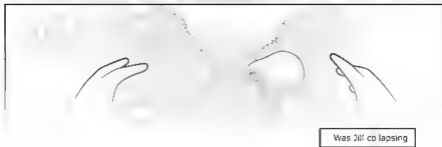
While I had not used anything close to my full power, I had used a lot of power very quickly in a reckless manner

The moment I stopped giving power, I found myself drifting towards involuntary sleep



JILL!

The last thing I saw



Was Jill collapsing

I don't know if she was alive

I woke up a few days later in a panic.

It hadn't been that long since I'd given Jill a lot of power, so I first tried detecting her that way.

When that failed, I tried searching as I would for anyone else, but

I had nothing to go on other than her first name, a guess at her age, the playground I'd found her in, and that her hair was possibly brown.

...or a straw color close to my own, as that seemed to be a side effect of what I'd done.

or some third color due to magic overuse.



I looked through public records for children named Jill, checked hospitals, schools, homes.

I tried everything I could think of, but I struggled to focus and think clearly.

Even if Jill was experiencing magic burn out, tracking the power I'd so recently given her should have worked.

Everything after that felt like denial.

I had moments when I felt I had to stop everything and do nothing for a while.

One day when I stopped, I didn't start again. I lacked the will to do anything.



Eventually, I reached a decision. I still had a son who needed me.

I used what will I could scrape up to figure out how I could seal the entirety of this memory away.

If you find this memory in the future, me,

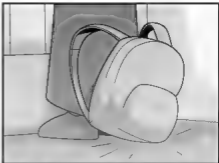
I'm sorry.

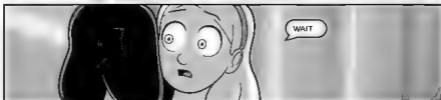


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End Part 9

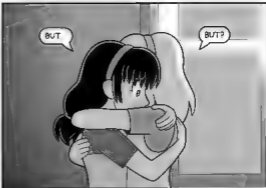
Part 10 begins next Wednesday, October 9th











YOU KNOW, ALL THE THINGS ABOUT IDENTITY YOU AND ELLEN HAVE... IN COMMON... YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT, DO YOU?

NO I WAS THAT SOMETHING I KNEW?

I DON'T KNOW BUT IT SEEMS LIKE SOMETHING YOU WOULD'VE KNOWN?

MOST OF THE MEMORIES I'D ALREADY PREPARED WERE OLD OR REALLY OLD

I HAD ONLY JUST STARTED PREPARING RECENT MEMORIES AS A PRECAUTION THE NIGHT BEFORE I WAS RESET

I DIDN'T KNOW I WAS GOING TO RESET SO SOON.

AND I PRIORITIZED YOU, FAMILY AND WHAT SPELLS I'D GIVEN PEOPLE RECENTLY, SO.

THERE'S A LOT MISSING

YEAH IT'S... REALLY BAD ACTUALLY

YOU SEE ALL THE ANIMATED CARRIAGES STABLED HERE?

THE... CARS?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY ARE!

WHEN I CAME BACK, I THOUGHT I WAS ON THE WRONG PLANET!

OH MY GOD. NO WONDER YOU DIDN'T TRY CALLING ME!

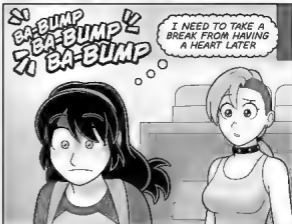
CALLING? I COULD HAVE SUMMONED YOU?

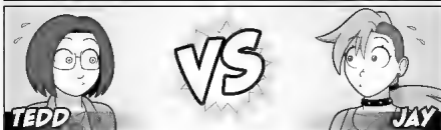
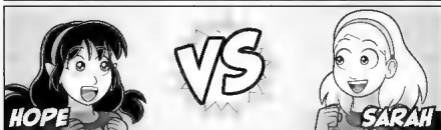
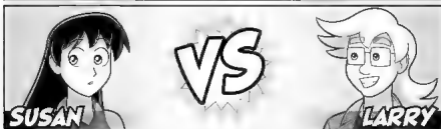
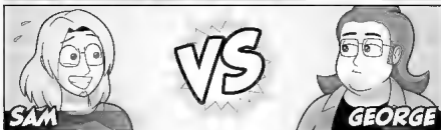
SYMPATHY HUG NOW EXPLAIN PHONES LATER.









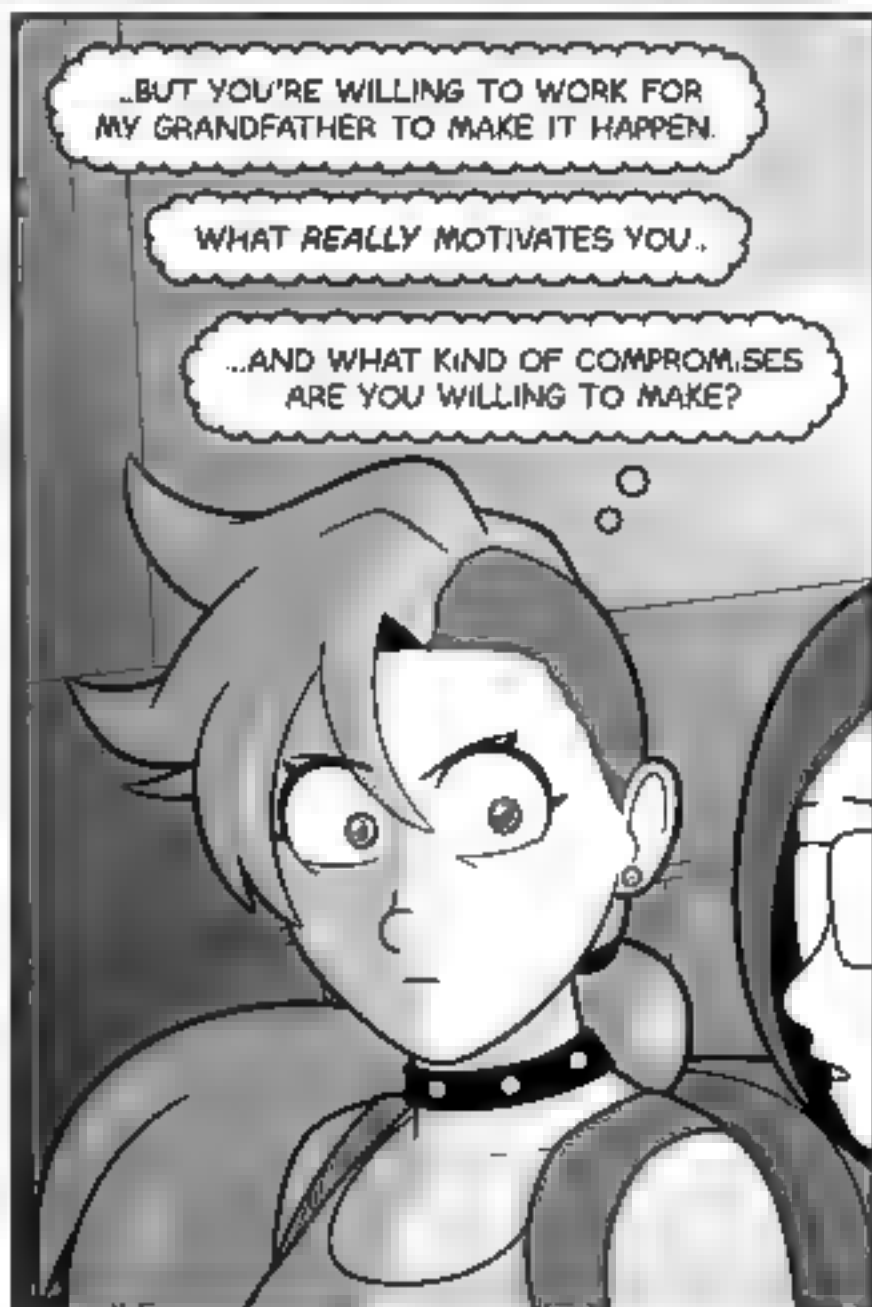


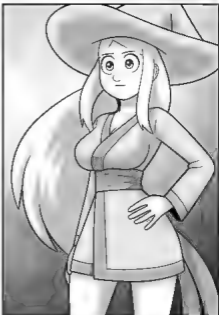
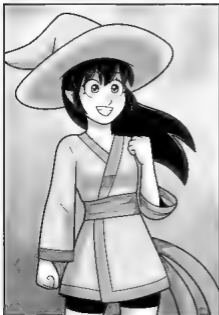
End Part 10

Part 11 begins next Wednesday, November 13th









I PLAY PERSISTENT HEALER!

1 Energy to play Human 0 Attack / 1 Health

At the start of each player's turn, controller gains 1 life

Cannot attack, and deals no damage when defending

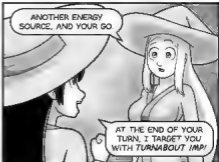


A LIFE-GAIN DECK? THAT'S NOT VERY QUIRKY...

MAYBE SHE TAKES IT TO SOME SORT OF EXTREME?

FOR MY TURN I JUST PLAY AN ENERGY SOURCE

AND UNLESS I DRAW SOMETHING THAT'S ALL I CAN DO UNTIL TURN THREE



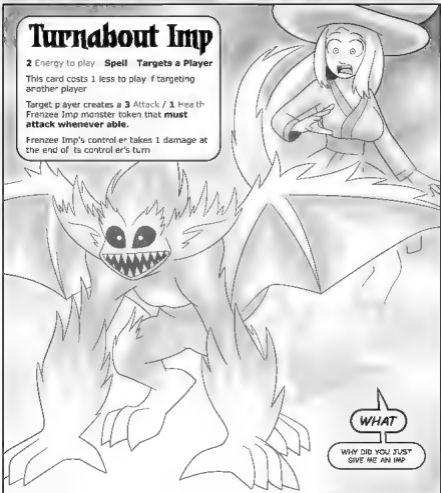
## Turnabout Imp

**2** Energy to play **Spell** **Targets a Player**

This card costs 1 less to play if targeting another player

Target player creates a **3** Attack / **1** Health Frenzee Imp monster token that **must** attack whenever able.

Frenzee Imp's controller takes 1 damage at the end of its controller's turn



ON MY TURN, I GAIN ANOTHER LIFE, AND PLAY

# Kaphoglio's Mimic

3 Energy to play Mimic 0 Attack / 3 Health

When Kaphoglio's Mimic enters play, **place a card from your hand face down under Kaphoglio's Mimic.**

If you cannot, it is destroyed

Cannot attack

**Cannot be targeted by the player who controls it.**

If Kaphoglio's Mimic is **destroyed**, play the cards under it for no energy cost, but **pay an amount of life equal to the total base energy cost of those cards**

Play cards in the order they're revealed  
Ignore turn-based restrictions

Before drawing a card at the start of your turns, put the top card of your deck face down at the bottom of the cards under Kaphoglio's Mimic.

WELL, THAT'S A PANDORA'S BOX IF I EVER SAW ONE

"AND I'M WHAT'S LEFT AFTER IT OPENS!"  
NOT ACTUALLY THE CARDS UNDER IT ARE LEFT BUT I WOULD'VE SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT

I WOULD'VE GOTTEN THAT! PROBABLY

NOW, FRENZEE IMP, I KNOW  
YOU WANT TO ATTACK, BUT...

RARRR!

...SO THAT'S  
WHAT YOU'RE  
GOING TO DO.

~SIGH~

CRUNCH

AND BELOW MY KAPHOGLIO'S MIMIC WAS MY

# Ohkie Rue Ne!

**9** Energy to play **Dragon** | **10** Attack / **10** Health  
Flies (non-flying monsters can't defend against it)

Does 2 damage to each of your opponent's  
monsters whenever it attacks.

"Big dragon, huh?"

WHICH COSTS  
ME NINE LIFE

OW



MULTIPLY GRAVITY!



## Multiply Gravity!

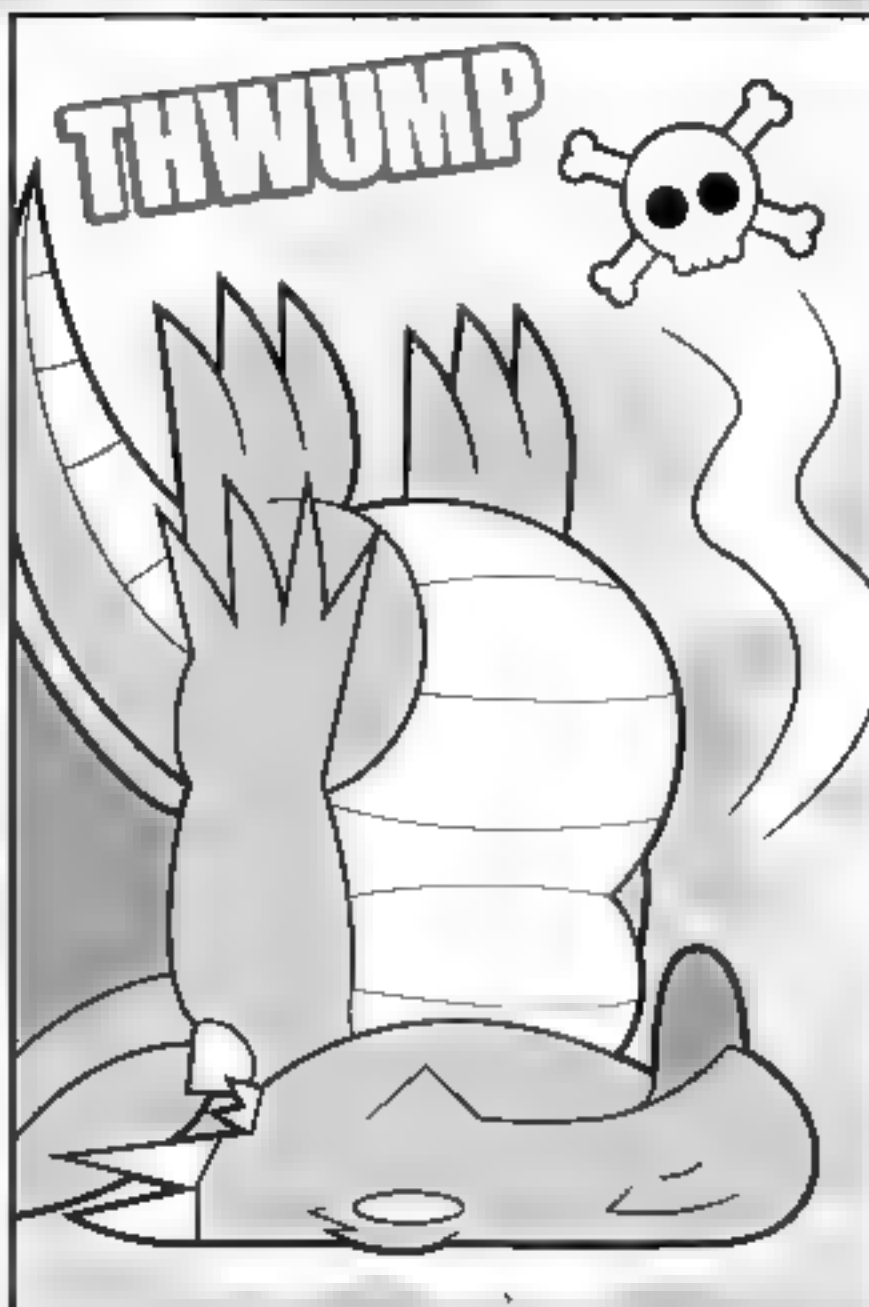
2 Energy to pay | Spell


Choose one

Destroy target item

**- DESTROY TARGET MONSTER  
THAT FLIES!!!**


Prevent a 1 combat damage from monsters  
this turn






I'M GLAD TO  
HEAR THAT I FELT  
A LITTLE BAD  
ABOUT TAKING OUT  
YOUR DRAGON!

THOUGH IT DID MEAN  
NOT GETTING TO PLAY A  
WEREWOLF THIS TURN.



WEREWOLVES  
AND DRAGONS...



If I simply remain  
in the lead, and the  
werewolf attacks  
me, I can restrain  
him in self-defense  
without breaking  
immortal law!


What is—NO!

Why is he  
ignoring me?!

Is ignoring immortals part of  
the curse? Why would that...

The humans can't restrain him!

They have to...!



YES, THE CURSES  
ARE MINE.

**I EMPOWER WITH  
MONSTROUS STRENGTH.**

**I GLIDE WITH  
BLOODLUST, RAGE,  
AND HUNGER.**

**I HAVE BROKEN  
NO IMMORTAL LAW,  
AND I AM OVER A  
THOUSAND  
YEARS OLD.**

**SHOULD ANY  
OF YOU WISH TO  
STOP ME...**

**...YOU ARE  
WELCOME  
TO TRY.**



IN A WAY,  
IT WAS  
HISTORY  
REPEATING  
ITSELF

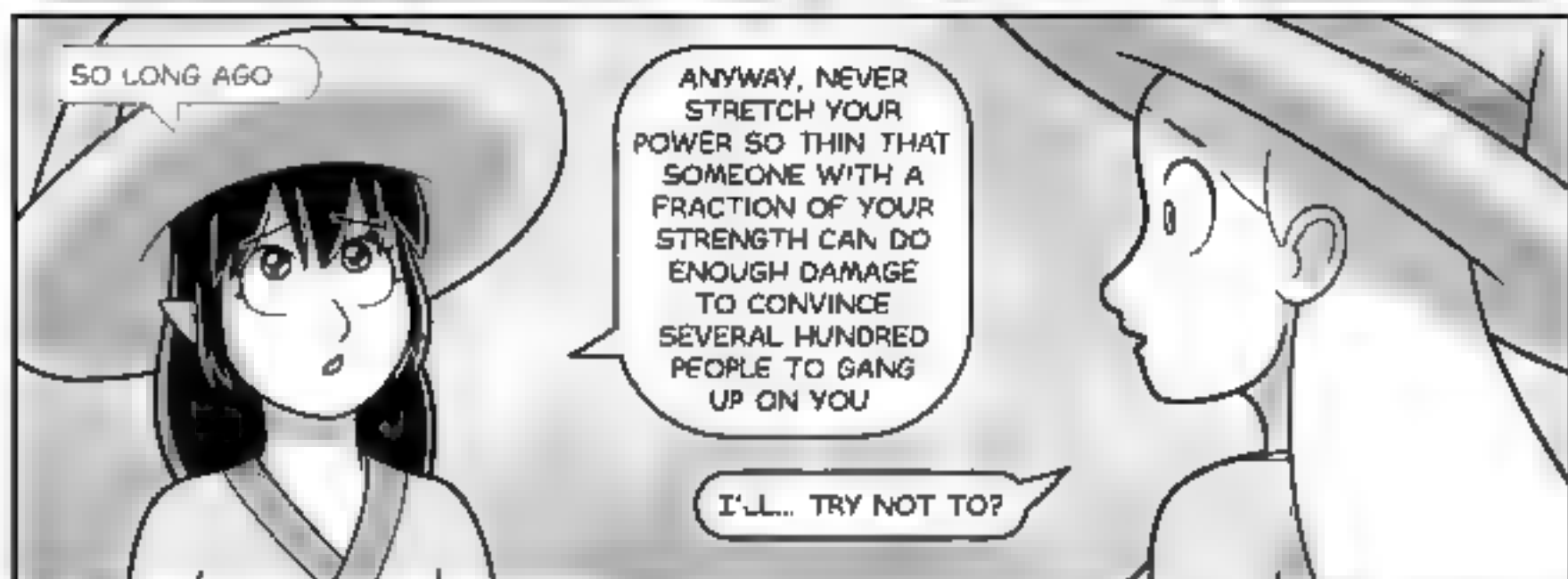
WHAT  
WAS?



A VERY POWERFUL DRAGON.



...OVERESTIMATING  
THEIR CHANCES.



SO LONG AGO

ANYWAY, NEVER  
STRETCH YOUR  
POWER SO THIN THAT  
SOMEONE WITH A  
FRACTION OF YOUR  
STRENGTH CAN DO  
ENOUGH DAMAGE  
TO CONVINCE  
SEVERAL HUNDRED  
PEOPLE TO GANG  
UP ON YOU

I'LL... TRY NOT TO?

PERHAPS WE SHOULD REVISIT  
THAT PROPOSAL ANOTHER TIME

FOR NOW, WE HAVE A PROBLEM.

WITH RAGNAROK GONE,  
SO TOO ARE HIS CURSES.

**HOWEVER.**

A SINGLE ONE OF  
US, ACTING ALONE,  
INFLICTED CURSES THAT  
COULD SPREAD LIKE  
PLAGUES ON PEOPLE ALL  
AROUND THE WORLD.

MORTALS WON'T  
CARE THAT HE WAS  
EXCEPTIONAL, OR THAT,  
FOR NOW, NONE OF US  
CAN DO WHAT HE DID.

IF THEY LEARN OF  
RAGNAROK, WE WILL NO  
LONGER BE SEEN AS  
QUIRKY PROVIDERS OF  
WISDOM AND POWER.

WE WILL BE SEEN AS  
A DEADLY THREAT

AS WILL BE ANYONE  
CONNECTED TO US.

WE ALL MUST VOW TO  
NEVER TELL ANYONE ELSE  
ABOUT RAGNAROK!

**MAKE THE VOW**

DO IT TO PROTECT YOURSELVES  
FROM FOOLISH MORTALS...

...AND TO NOT MAKE  
AN ENEMY OF ME.

NO ONE  
WANTS TO BE  
YOUR ENEMY,  
PANDORA.

JUST LIKE NO  
ONE WANTS TO BE  
YOUR FRIEND.

FOR AS  
LONG AS I  
LIVE

I VOW TO  
NEVER TELL  
ANYONE ABOUT  
RAGNAROK

THAT WAS  
A HELL OF  
A RISK,  
PANDORA!

TO WAIT WAS THE GREATER RISK.

RAGNAROK WAS WEAK FROM  
POWERING CURSED ARTIFACTS  
FROM AROUND THE WORLD

"RAGNAROK"...  
NAMING HIMSELF  
AFTER A WAR OF  
THE GODS. HOW  
MAD FROM AGE  
WAS HE?

I DO NOT  
KNOW, FABIOUS.  
BUT HIS CURSES,  
THREATENING  
NAME, AND THAT  
INTIMIDATING  
DRAGON FORM  
WERE ALL PART  
OF A PLAN.

TO WHAT END?!

TO FORCE OUR  
LAWS TO CHANGE

IF HE WAS TOO  
STRONG, OR SCARY,  
TO FIGHT...

...AND  
WASN'T  
~~REPEATING~~  
OUR  
LAWS...

...THE ONLY  
WAY LEFT TO  
STOP HIM, AND  
SAVE HUMANITY,  
WOULD BE  
TO CHANGE  
THOSE LAWS.

YOU'RE RIGHT...  
I BET HE HAD THE  
IDEA CENTURIES  
AGO! WHY ELSE  
WOULDN'T HE HAVE  
RESET SOONER?!

NOW THAT  
HE'S OUT OF THE  
NEGOTIATIONS, WE  
SHOULD CHANGE  
OUR LAWS.

WHAT?! AFTER ALL THAT, YOU'D  
GIVE RAGNAROK WHAT HE WANTED?!

"RAGNAROK" IS DEAD. WHOEVER HE  
BECOMES WILL BE A NEW PERSON.

AS HAS BEEN  
DEMONSTRATED,  
THE LAWS ARE  
RIPE FOR ABUSE  
BY THE OLD AND  
POWERFUL. AND  
DANGEROUSLY  
LIMIT THOSE  
WHO ARE  
YOUNGER.

I COULD HAVE  
UNCOVERED HIS  
PLANS FAR MORE  
QUICKLY UNDER  
DIFFERENT  
LAWS.

AND HIS PLAN  
WOULDN'T HAVE  
BEEN POSSIBLE  
IN THE FIRST  
PLACE IF—

**BOO!**

WE CAN'T LET THAT BASTARD  
WIN AFTER ALL THAT!

WOULDN'T  
CHANGING ANY-  
THING HAVE SIDE  
EFFECTS?

YES, A WHOLE  
LOT OF THEM!

HIM OR HER! I  
THOUGHT I WAS  
GOING TO DIE!

WHY'D YOU  
EVEN ATTACK,  
THEN?!

THE STATUS  
QUO IS OUR  
VICTORY!

A GRUDGE!  
SHE DID IT FOR  
HERSELF!

YEAH!

THAT'S  
RIGHT!

SHE JUST  
WANTED TO  
KILL HIM?!

WE'RE NOT  
CHANGING  
SQUAT!



I PLAY  
GOBLIN  
MATRIARCH.

SERIOUSLY,  
WHO DREW  
YOU?



HA

MA

TEDD'S DECK SEEMS  
A BIT .. PLAIN?

HE'S MANAGED TO MAKE  
SEVERAL WEAK SOLDIER  
TOKENS WITH THAT WEIRD  
HORN. BUT THERE'S NO  
"MAD SCIENTIST" VIBE  
TO ANY OF THIS.

NOT THAT H.S DECK  
HAS TO MATCH HIS  
PERSONALITY BUT...



I TARGET YOUR GOBLIN MATRIARCH WITH A MAGIC FISH, THEN TOOT A HORN, SUMMONING SEVEN HUMAN SOLDIER TOKENS WHO, DUE TO THE FISH, TRANSFORM INTO GOBLIN MATRIARCHS AS THEY ENTER PLAY

EACH ONE GIVES OTHER  
GOBLINS I CONTROL  
PLUS ONE PLUS ONE, SO...  
I HAVE SEVEN EIGHT-EIGHT  
GOBLIN MATRIARCHS.

?!

**x7**

OKAY

KNOWING  
TEDD MIGHT  
BE FUN



Soon...

GOOD GAMES.

HOW DID I WIN?  
MY BRAIN WAS  
JAY-SHAPED THE  
WHOLE TIME!

DO I PLAY  
BETTER ON  
AUTOPILOT?!

YEAH...

H-HEY, SO, UM...

I, UH...

THIS IS A LITTLE  
AWKWARD, BUT...

HUH?  
OH.

OH NO.

IS HE ABOUT TO  
ASK ME OUT?!

Y-YOUR  
REVIEW  
SHOW  
HELPED  
MAKE ME  
A BETTER  
PERSON!

BWUH?



SUSAN, I...  
I WANT TO BE  
CLOSER.

I WANT US TO BE AS INTIMATE  
AS TWO PEOPLE CAN BE.



YOU MEAN, YOU  
WANT TO...

YES.



I WANT TO TALK ABOUT  
ALL OUR THOUGHTS AND  
FEELINGS TOGETHER!

WHILE WEARING  
COMFY PAJAMAS  
WITH ONLY ONE  
BUTTON DONE ON  
THE SHIRT FOR  
SOME REASON!

I WANT US  
TO SHARE  
EVERYTHING  
WITHOUT  
SHAME!



AND MAYBE...  
ONE DAY...



WE CAN  
CUDDLE.



I-I PLAY METEOR!

?



